

## **COWIfonden supports Unge Forskere (Young Researchers)**

The talent competition Unge Forskere (Young Researchers) puts dedicated effort into discovering, recognizing and challenging talented people within natural science, technology and health science in order to encourage them to enter a further education programme in these fields.

During its 27 years of existence, Unge Forskere has discovered and developed natural science talents among children and young persons. Unge Forskere is developing rapidly, especially since 2011. In 2015, Unge Forskere received more than 2,000 projects from pupils attending primary and lower and upper secondary schools. A competent jury with strong professional skills evaluates all projects and selects in several stages the approx. 100 projects, which will participate in Unge Forskere's big finale Science at Forum.

### **Unge Forskere – a national science event**

Unge Forskere is for all young persons with an interest in natural science. Unge Forskere gathers pupils from all over the country in its efforts to support the educational system in its wish to discover, recognize and challenge the talents, who are so crucial for the future of Denmark.

Unge Forskere was held at Forum, Copenhagen, on 26-28 April 2015. The talent competition placed on view more than 100 projects selected for the finale and nine guest projects from China and South America including a big Science & Technology exhibition with exhibition stands representing 35 industries. In addition, 6,000 children, young persons and families visited Forum during the three days of finale.

Unge Forskere expects to attract even more visitors with a keen interest in natural science in 2016 when the Unge Forskere Finale – Science Forum calls for a science event from 24-26 April.

Unge Forskere has the format to become a vital link in the food chain between primary and lower and upper secondary schools on the one hand and universities and industry on the other hand. This will be achieved through competitions, professional support and cooperation with universities and industry as well as travel prizes to international science competitions in among other countries the EU, the USA and China.

Unge Forskere has visions of establishing a proper natural science institution in the minds of both teachers and pupils by striving for

- a more widespread recruitment leading to stronger interface, which will leave a mark on the pupils in the primary and lower and upper secondary schools
- a strengthening of the finale by making it the big national science event of the year known as Science i Forum (Science at Forum) where pupils, teachers, industry, educational institutions, policymakers and news media nationwide will meet to focus jointly on natural science, technology and health science.

### **Project manager**

Unge Forskere receives grants from organisations, funds and ministries and is 100% independent and free of commercial interests.