

## AN ILLUSTRATION OF INCLUSION

“Don’t tell me the moon is shining; show me the glint of light on broken glass.” This beautifully evocative quote, attributed to the playwright Anton Chekov, has been used by storytellers worldwide to teach budding novelists the concept of ‘show, don’t tell’. The aim of this writing technique is to immerse the reader in the story, drawing them in to the world of the fictional character rather than simply telling them what is happening in the story.

Chidierebe Ibe’s illustration of a Black fetus (p 4) is a powerful demonstration of the significance of showing, not telling. Greater attention has been paid to equality, diversity and inclusion in recent years – and rightly so – but when Chidierebe’s drawing went viral on social media in December last year, it highlighted a major issue: the lack of diversity in medical drawings.

Soapbox Science (p 36) and the Africa Science Buskers Festival (p 68) are two more striking examples of the power of ‘showing’. Set up in 2011, Soapbox Science places female and non-binary scientists on soapboxes worldwide to defy stereotypes and bring science to the streets. The Science Buskers Festival tasks primary and high school students to solve some of the world’s greatest challenges and present their innovations to captive audiences across Africa.

The researchers in this issue come from a wide variety of backgrounds and are communicating their work in a manner that shows students a pathway to rewarding and impactful careers. As Dr Nathalie Pettorelli, founder of Soapbox Science, says, “Scientists come in all shapes and sizes”. Futurum is here to show your students just that!

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### KAREN LINDSAY

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Editorial Assistant

### CHUKWUDI BARRAH

Editorial Assistant

### BRETT LANGENBERG

Director

### CHRIS DOWELL

Project Manager

### KIZZY DENNETT

Project Manager

T: +44 117 9099150

E: [info@futurumcareers.com](mailto:info@futurumcareers.com)

W: [www.futurumcareers.com](http://www.futurumcareers.com)

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## OUR WRITERS

---

Jacob Ashton, MA

Harry Carstairs, MPhys

Maureen Cohen, MPhys

Ben Harris, MSci

Sam Jarman, MSc

Paul Redmond, MA

Ellie Wood, MBiolSci

Andrew Twelves, MPhys

## OUR GRAPHIC DESIGNER

---

Claire Leach, BA (Hons)

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