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# CONTENTS

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## EXPLORE

### THE ART OF CREATIVITY

How does creativity work and can we harness our creative capabilities? /18

### ENGINEERING MARVELS

We connect the world through breath-taking bridges that pushed the boundaries of construction /24

### RESILIENT CEDARS

After centuries of abuse and deforestation, Lebanon's cedar forests are making a comeback /30

### DRIVING FORCE

How the UAE can draw similarities and comparisons with Ireland in its drive towards a knowledge economy /34

### THE MYSTERIOUS PLANET 9

Theoretical evidence is mounting that there might be a huge planet on the fringes of our solar system /38

### THE BEAUTY OF TECH

How Africa's Ms Geek contest is turning traditional pageant culture on its head /42

### SKIN DEEP

Researchers in the UAE have made a breakthrough with the development of a non-invasive wearable tech device that uses optics to track hydration and dehydration levels of the skin /46

### ARAB CONTRIBUTION

Nadine Labaki is a pioneer in the world of Arab cinema /50

## REGULARS

### 05: FOREWORD

### 06: NEWS

### 10: YEAR OF ZAYED

Celebrating the father of the nation's commitment to preserving the UAE's rich heritage

### 54: FLASHBACK

Child prodigies throughout the centuries and what became of their lives



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## FOREWORD

Dear readers,

It's with great delight that I can announce the theme of this year's Knowledge Summit. The event, on December 5 and 6, which will attract the greatest minds and speakers to Dubai, bears the theme 'Youth and the Future of the Knowledge Economy'.

Make no mistake: the youth are the engine driving the advancement of societies and the catalyst ensuring their sustainability and future-readiness. If youth are the engine of the future, we must think of ourselves as mechanics, and all play our part in helping them achieve optimum performance.

With this in mind, I look forward to hearing, learning from and sharing the experience and foresight of the panel experts and keynote speakers during this year's Summit, and I urge you all to join me at what will undoubtedly be an enlightening event.

Over the years, the Knowledge Summit has showcased Dubai's role as a global hub for the knowledge industry, underlining the emirate's great capacity for forecasting and preparing for the future. Let us not forget that the future starts today.

A highlight of the Summit is the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Knowledge Award, and – with submissions for this year now closed – I'm pleased to report that the award attracts more and more submissions from around the world each year. This is evidence that knowledge is not bound by country, and innovation does not recognise borders.

The award honours knowledge pioneers – individuals or institutions – from every corner of the planet. It's interesting to note that the bulk of submissions for this year's edition of the award come from individual candidates rather than institutions. This makes us all the more certain that there is no shortage of brilliant innovators in the world – creative thinkers that merit praise and recognition.

Creative thinking is a theme that runs through this issue as we ponder what makes a person creative and celebrate the imaginative work of architects and engineers to astronomers, researchers and an award-winning Arab filmmaker. Enjoy the issue.

**Jamal Bin Huwareb**  
CEO of Mohammed bin Rashid  
Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation