



## COMETA Outreach Event:

### Particle Physics and the Nobel Prize

**Date:** 1 June 2026, 18.00–19.30

**Venue:** The Beijer Hall, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences,  
Lilla Frescativägen 4A, Stockholm.

The third COMETA General Meeting is held at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm, on June 1-3, 2026. In the evening of the first day, an outreach event open to the public will be organised, connecting both to the theme of the conference and to the venue, where the Nobel Prize in Physics is decided every year.

Particle physics explores how the universe operates. It looks at the universe's smallest building blocks using history's largest science experiments. The Nobel Prize in Physics recognises the most important discoveries about the universe and the inventions needed to make these discoveries. Join us on Monday, 1 June 2026 at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences to hear Prof. Freya Blekman from the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY) laboratory in Germany and Prof. Mats Larsson from Stockholm University and the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences talk about particle physics, the Nobel Prize, and the scientists that make everything happen.

### **Programme**

**18:00**

#### **The Nobel Prize in Physics – how it's done**

Professor Emeritus Mats Larsson

The procedure for awarding the Nobel Prize in Physics has changed very little since 1901. It rests on three pillars: nominations, evaluations and the Nobel Committee's proposal to the decision-making body, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. Mats Larsson will describe the procedure and give some examples from previous Nobel Prizes.

**18:45**

#### **Understanding the Large Hadron Collider: What, why and how?**

Professor Freya Blekman

Ever wondered about why the 27-kilometre Large Hadron Collider was built and what scientists do with it? Then this is the talk for you! Colliders are the Swiss Army knife of physics experiments, investigating everything from new particles and forces to the birth of the universe. As one of the physicists who work with the

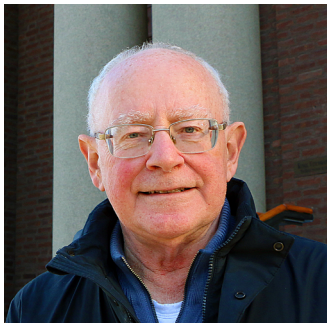
enormous detectors that record collisions at the Large Hadron Collider, I will not only talk about why particle physics is necessary and interesting for everyone, but also discuss the fun and social aspects of this exceptional human effort to understand the building blocks of matter.

**19:30**  
**End of event**

### About the speakers



**Freya Blekman** is a lead scientist at the German physics laboratory DESY and a Helmholtz Distinguished Professor of physics at the University of Hamburg. She holds additional chairs as a guest professor at Oxford University and Vrije Universiteit Brussel. She works at CERN, where she uses data from the Large Hadron Collider, collected by the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) experiment, to examine undiscovered physics processes and search for new particles. Blekman is an experienced science communicator who has won many prizes for her science and also for science communication.



**Mats Larsson** is Professor Emeritus at Stockholm University and Chairman for the Class for physics at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. He was a member of the Nobel Committee for Physics for nine years and has presented the Nobel Prize in Physics both at press conferences and in the Concert Hall at the Nobel Prize award ceremony on December 10.

**This outreach event is free of charge and open to the public but registration is required.**

[Please register here>](#)

**COMETA** (C**OM**prehensive M**ULTI**boson E**XP**eriment-T**HEORY** A**CTION**) is a COST Action that is devoted to improving measurements of multi-boson production processes at the LHC, their theoretical predictions, and their interpretation. The network currently includes 320+ researchers from over 44 countries within and outside Europe. It brings together theorists, experimentalists and machine learning experts, with the goal of creating a tightly interconnected community that can boost the development of innovative approaches to multi-boson measurements. The network also aims at creating an inclusive and informal environment, where young scientists and researchers based in underfunded European countries can gain international visibility.