

300 Colorado Middle School Students Converge on CU Denver for Mathematics Festival

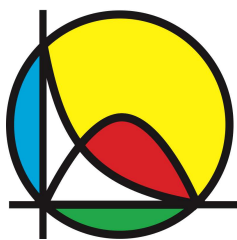
The University of Colorado Denver, in partnership with the National Association of Math Circles, is bringing mathematics to life for over 300 middle school students through a Julia Robinson Math Festival (JRMF) on Friday, September 11, 2015, from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Coming both from the Denver Metro Area as well as mountain communities such as Roaring Fork and Steamboat Springs, students will have the opportunity to engage in a variety of interactive and engaging mathematical activities under the expert guidance of over 80 mathematics faculty, mathematics graduate students, and teachers. In addition, many students will participate in a “Math Wrangle”, which is a free-flowing competition where students solve math problems and are judged on how well they can explain their solutions to others.

The JRMF is hosted by CU Denver mathematics faculty members and Associate Professors Michael Ferrara and Diana White; Lorraine Garrison, a teacher from York International School in Thornton, CO; and Brandy Wieggers, a mathematician and Assistant Professor from Central Washington. Approximately 75 JRMFs have been held across the country since 2007, but this is the first one to occur in Colorado. The festival is named in honor of Julia Robinson (1919-1985), a prominent female mathematician who was the first female president of the American Mathematical Society and is perhaps best known for her significant contributions to the solution of Hilbert's Tenth Problem, which appears on David Hilbert's famous 1900 list of the most significant mathematical problems for the twentieth century.

The CU Denver festival is being held as part of a 3-day workshop that will bring mathematics faculty from across the country to CU Denver to kick off a new mentorship program for Math Circles. Math Circles are outreach programs for both students and K12 teachers, which place participants in the role of a mathematical explorer, generally under the guidance of professional mathematicians. Dr. Diana White, Director of the National Association of Math Circles, is the local host and lead organizer of the workshop.

The JRMF will be held on the Downtown Denver Campus of the University of Colorado Denver on Friday September 11, 2015, in the Student Commons Building, Rooms 1600 and 2500, at 1201 Larimer Street, Denver, CO 80204.

For more information, please contact both Diana White (Diana.white@ucdenver.edu) and Michael Ferrara (Michael.Ferrara@ucdenver.edu).



Julia Robinson
Mathematics Festival

