



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
April 15, 2015

**Contact: Sara Neumann**  
301-585-5034  
[sara@cfoxcommunications.com](mailto:sara@cfoxcommunications.com)

## **Bay Area Families Invited to Celebrate the First-Ever National Math Festival**

*Bay Area Museums will be Equipped with NASA-Endorsed Zometool Bubble Stations Demos*

**Berkeley, Calif.** April 15, 2015 — Berkeley-based Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) has teamed with Princeton, NJ-based Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) to host the first National Math Festival on Saturday, April 18. While the festival is scheduled to take place in Washington, D.C., MSRI has developed several ways for Bay Area residents to participate via local museums and science centers.

At least 3 local museums will participate in the National Math Festival, including:

- **The Children’s Creativity Museum:** 221 Fourth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103
- **Lawrence Hall of Science:** 1 Centennial Drive, Berkeley, CA 94720
- **Explorit Science Center:** 3141 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Davis, CA 95618

On Saturday, April 18, more than 80 museums across the country, including these three in the greater Bay Area, will offer Zometool Bubble Station demos that allow participants to create magnificent structures from geometric bubbles. Children will have the chance to create a variety of formations including cubic, spiral and wormhole shaped bubbles. Zometool construction sets have been used by NASA for research and space station projects.

A complete listing of participating museums can be found at [www.MathFest.org](http://www.MathFest.org).

“Math is all around us—from the colors of the rainbow to the cars we drive and the bridges they drive over, from modern cell phones and Internet commerce to the newest medical technology, from the study of the deep oceans to the study of the stars,” said David Eisenbud, Director of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute, and Festival co-organizer. “This festival is a celebration of math in all its fun and beauty: math everyone can understand and enjoy.”

Further information on Festival speakers and presenters, as well as a detailed schedule of activities, is available at [www.MathFest.org](http://www.MathFest.org). Connect on Facebook, or follow the Festival on Twitter [@mathmoves](https://twitter.com/mathmoves).

For more information about local Bay Area activities, please contact participating museums directly.

**NEW YOUTH BOOK PRIZE:** In addition to hosting the inaugural National Math Festival, MSRI will award a new youth book prize, to be awarded annually in partnership with the Children’s Book Council. **Mathical: Books for Kids from Tots to Teens** will recognize the most inspiring math-related fiction and nonfiction books for children of all ages. The 2015 Mathical book prizes will be awarded during a private ceremony on the eve of the public festival, with this year’s winning books— and some of their prize-winning authors— to be featured at the Festival on April 18.

“The Children’s Book Council is proud to partner with the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute to celebrate children’s books that inspire a love of math in children,” said Jon Coleman, executive director, Children’s Book Council.

-more-

**About the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI)**

The Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) is one of the world's preeminent centers for collaborative research in mathematics. Since 1982, MSRI's topic-focused programs have brought together emerging and leading minds in mathematics, in an environment that promotes creativity and the interchange of ideas. Over 1,500 mathematical scientists spend time at MSRI's California headquarters each year. MSRI is known around the world for the quality and reach of its programs and its leadership in basic research, and also in mathematics education and in the public understanding of mathematics. [www.msri.org](http://www.msri.org)

**About the Institute for Advanced Study (IAS)**

The Institute for Advanced Study, founded in 1930 as an independent institution in Princeton, New Jersey, is one of the world's leading centers for basic research in the sciences and humanities, where the permanent faculty and visiting scholars have the freedom to pursue some of the deepest theoretical questions without pressure for immediate outcomes. Its reach has been multiplied many times over through the more than 7,000 scholars who have influenced entire fields of study as well as the work and minds of colleagues and students. [www.ias.edu](http://www.ias.edu)

###