

PRESS RELEASE
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Berkeley City College to Host MoSAIC Math + Art Festival on Oct. 3-4

BERKELEY, CA - Berkeley City College will be hosting a festival celebrating the connections between mathematics and the arts on Friday-Saturday, October 3-4, 2014, from 10 am to 5 pm each day. The festival will be held at Berkeley City College, 2050 Center St, Berkeley (1/2 block west of the Downtown Berkeley BART station) and is free and open to the public.

The MoSAIC Festival includes a variety of hands-on workshops, lectures, a mathematical art exhibit, short films, and an area for informal exchange. It is designed to be easily accessible by audiences from high school age and up. See <http://www.mosaicmathart.org/events/berkeley>

Some of the featured presenters at the festival include:

- Carol Bier - a researcher at a textile museum who is expert in how mathematical patterns appear in the fiber arts.
- George Hart - a research professor at Stony Brook University who is also an internationally known sculptor.
- Vi Hart - a “mathemusician” well known for her popular YouTube videos that explore the creative sides of mathematics.
- Andrea Hawksley - an MIT-trained artist who makes mathematical constructions using anything from sunglasses to hair bands.
- Chris Palmer - an internationally known origami expert who has designed amazing paper-folded artworks.
- Karl Schaffer - math professor and co-director of Math Dance, a pioneer in bringing a mathematical outlook to the world of dance.

MoSAIC stands for Mathematics of Science, Art, Industry, Culture. The purpose of the MoSAIC project, which holds festivals at several universities each year across the United States, is to promote awareness and interest in mathematics through its connection to the arts. MoSAIC is a joint venture between the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) and the Bridges Organization.

“Mathematicians see math as art, and many artists love math. At a MoSAIC Festival these usually separate worlds can unite! The sparks generated will be inspiring,” says David Eisenbud, Director of MSRI. “A student who is engaged in mathematics through the arts may be hooked and go on and explore further on their own,” adds George Hart, Bridges board member and MoSAIC Director.

“Berkeley City College (BCC) is delighted to collaborate with MSRI to host ‘MoSAIC: a Festival of Math and Art’,” said Dr. Deborah Budd, president of BCC. “It will provide invaluable and creative insights for students and our community and will help everyone understand the many ways in which mathematics connects to science, art, industry, and culture in our everyday lives.”

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MSRI's MoSAIC Festival of Math & Art program has been made possible through generous support by the Simons Foundation (www.simonsfoundation.org).

From its location in Berkeley, MSRI (www.msri.org) hosts visitors from all over the world to pursue advanced mathematical research, and is committed to furthering mathematics education from elementary school to the postgraduate, as well as furthering the public understanding and appreciation of the beauty and excitement of mathematics. The Bridges Organization (www.bridgesmathart.org) oversees the Bridges conference, an annual 5-day conference on connections between mathematics and the arts.

For more information on the MoSAIC project visit www.mosaicmathart.org.

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