UT|D   SCHOOL OF *natural sciences & mathematics*

News and Events

nsm > news and events > metroplex math circle

Metroplex Math Circle at The University of Texas at Dallas

Sundays from 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

The Department of Science/Mathematics Education is excited to announce the launch of a new initiative sponsored by the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) that would directly benefit your curious and motivated students: the Metroplex Math Circle.

The Metroplex Math Circle (MMC) is designed for students in 5th-12th grades from all over North Texas and will meet at UTD on Sunday afternoons, beginning September 24. It meets from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.in ECSS 2.410 (the Engineering and Computer Science-South building). Typically, students will attend a plenary lecture on an exciting and accessible topic given by an experienced and passionate local or visiting professor. Then they break out into smaller groups based on age and ability for a more focused seminar on selected topics in problem solving with one of the instructors.

Titu Andreescu, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
UTD Science / Mathematics
Education

The aim is to provide a relaxed and friendly atmosphere where discussion of ideas is strongly encouraged. Refreshments will be provided for all who attend-participants and parents (and teachers too!) The instructors for the first session will be: Dr. Titu Andreescu (short biography below) Dr. Tom Butts, Professor, Science/Mathematics Education Department, University of Texas at Dallas Zac Cox, McDermott Scholar, University of Texas at Dallas.

The format of the circle, motivated by the Eastern European approach of informally bringing together researchers, professors, and students, has thrived elsewhere in the United States. Cities of all sizes-large, such as Boston or San Francisco, and small, like Mobile, AL or Salt Lake City-have implemented the math circle model to great effect, and students who have committed themselves to these programs have done remarkably well in competitions and gone on to considerable success at top universities.

Until now, Dallas students have had no such opportunity. The circle connects students who have particular interest and aptitude in mathematics. It provides a friendly learning environment and builds a mathematical community where people share the same love for mathematics. MMC gives them the opportunity to interact with teachers and professors who have a powerful grasp of the subject and who will enrich the mathematics they learn in school and introduce them to topics that they have not encountered before.

The circle will help students prepare for success at their own schools, in competitions, and eventually in higher education. MMC exists to supplement-not to replace or supersede-the enrichment that students receive from a math club or team at their own school. It is not a competing entity in any way; in particular, the circle does not and will not field teams for mathematics contests. It will, however, groom its students for success for their own teams.

The Director of the Metroplex Math Circle is Dr. Titu Andreescu, Associate Professor in the Science/Mathematics Education department at the University of Texas at Dallas.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Andreescu by e-mail at   titu.andreescu@utdallas.edu or

by phone at (214) 549-6146.

Dr. Andreescu served for five years as the Director of the MAA American Mathematics Competitions, the sequence of contests that includes the AMC 8, 10, and 12, the AIME, and the USAMO. He also served as Head Coach of the USA International Mathematical Olympiad Team for eight years, most notably during its unprecedented perfect performance in 1994 in Hong Kong. In addition, he founded AwesomeMath, which held its inaugural Summer Program at UTD in July-August, 2006 for about a hundred students from across the country and the world.

Updated: November 15, 2006