

7 November 2008

Mathematician Project

Dear Honors Algebra 2 Student,

As I am sure you are aware, the Nobel Prize awards are given every year for outstanding accomplishments. Prizes are given for literature, physics, chemistry, peace, economics, and medicine. However, there is no award for mathematics, which is a great travesty since at least four of the categories depend heavily on mathematics: physics, chemistry, economics, and medicine.

To rectify this intolerable situation, you will nominate a mathematician to receive a Nobel Prize in Mathematics, prepare a 5-minute presentation about that mathematician, and deliver the presentation to the Nobel Committee (in reality our class). Perhaps by highlighting the contributions of mathematicians through the ages, our class will convince the Nobel Committee to reconsider awarding a mathematics prize.

You must first do a little background research and decide who you would like to nominate. **Everyone in our class will nominate someone different.** Attached you will find a list of mathematicians. Since this exercise is just for "fun," we can ignore the usual rule that the nominee be alive. Feel free to choose someone not on this list. Write down your three top choices and submit them to me at the beginning of class on Monday, November 10. You may email me your top three choices over the weekend, if you want to get a jump on the process.

The project will consist of a five-minute presentation, a visual aide (power point or poster), and a handout to support your presentation. Details for each of these requirements will be given on Monday. The presentation should contain information about their biography and their mathematical work. Presentations will begin on Tuesday, November 18 and will continue with six to eight presentations per day through Friday, November 21.

Sincerely,

S. Casey Jones, Ph.D.
Math Teacher

List of Mathematicians

John Nash		Isaac Newton	Isaac Hawes
Ptolemy	Katie McIntyre	Eratosthenes	Tiffany Oliveira
Galileo	Zobia Qureshi	Cardan	Elijah Anderson
Hypatia		Dame Mary Cartwright	
René Descartes	Gabrielle Sims	Albert Einstein	Dre Lloyd
Margaret Wright		John W Tukey	
Nicholas Mercator		Andrew Wiles	Rachel Bean
Fibonacci	Parizah Knowles	John Conway	Austin Markway
MC Escher	Gabrielle Abusharr	Donald Knuth	
Stephen Hawking	Conner Maund	Benoit Mandelbrot	Brian Weinstein
CF Gauss	Wilney Charmant	James Clerk Maxwell	
Ada Lovelace	Tiffany Watson	Srinivasa Ramanujan	Ryan Raper
Blaise Pascal	Terrell Solomon	Andrei Kolmogorov	
Leonard Euler	Chika Achukwu	Bernard Riemann	Jazzi Stinson
Euclid		Emily Noether	Chelsea Craig
Jacob Bernoulli		John von Neuman	
Daniel Bernoulli		Paul Erdős	McKenzie Bruch
Johann Kepler	Megan McClendon	Godfried Leibniz	Michell Wade
Simon LaPlace		G I Taylor	
Charles Babbage	Tyler Clark	Ron Graham	
George Cantor	Casey Koenke	Terrence Tao	Rebekah Cooper
Omar Khayyam	Brandon Waters	Richard Feynman	
Benjamin Banneker		Évariste Galois	Joanna Castillo
Florence Nightingale	Stacey Ikeh		
Edward Tufte	Damon Haynie		

