

MU ALPHA THETA NEWSLETTER

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NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

I can't believe that over half of another school year has already passed! By now, many of you may have participated in several math competitions. For many states, a state math competition may be just around the corner and you're scrambling to finish up your curriculum. I hope that you have participated in the two free contests sponsored by Mu Alpha Theta: the Log1 Contest and the Rocket City Math League. Both of these contests are excellent resources for your students to "get their game face on." If you have not participated this year, I strongly encourage you to register your school for next year's contests. It is also time to begin thinking about attending the 2014 Mu Alpha Theta National Convention in Orlando, Florida. The convention runs from July 20-25 and promises to be one of the best ever. Early bird registration is due by April 1, and the final registration deadline is May 15. Grants are available for schools that have never attended the convention, and Need-Based Scholarships are also available for deserving students.

Have you looked at the Mu Alpha Theta website lately? Get ready for your brain to go into overload—so many opportunities are available for you and your students. One-time \$1,000 Chapter Grants are available to help your chapter, the Mathematical Minutes Video Contest deadline is February 28, Mu Alpha Theta Scholarship deadline is March 1, and grants are available for students doing summer studies or mathematical research. This isn't all that's on there, so be sure to check out our homepage, www.mualphatheta.org.

If you are not already working with a local junior high school or middle school math club or team, volunteer to help out! Encourage them to start a Chi Alpha Mu chapter. Chi Alpha Mu stands for "Creative Adventures in Mathematics," and is run by Mu Alpha Theta for middle schools and junior high schools. Resources and merchandise can be found at www.chialphamu.org. Grant money is also provided for these chapters and their students.

I hope all of you have a productive semester and restful spring and summer breaks. I look forward to serving as your president again next year, and I hope to be able to introduce new events in the fall.

Todd Taylor
Mu Alpha Theta President

ORLANDO NATIONAL CONVENTION

JULY
20 - 25



DOUBLETREE
HOTEL

The 44th Annual Mu Alpha Theta National Convention will be held July 20-25 in Orlando, FL at the DoubleTree Hotel at the Entrance to Universal. Chapters will have the option of going to Disney Parks, Universal Parks, or SeaWorld for an additional charge.

Before April 1: \$550 Early Registration

After April 1: \$590 Regular Registration

Sponsors requesting single rooms will need to pay an additional \$350. **All registration must be postmarked by May 15th.** Visit www.mualphatheta.org for more information on the convention.

One Need-Based Scholarship is available per attending school.

New! Silver Sponsor Award: Free registration to the convention for any sponsor who has served 25 years or more and is bringing students to convention.

NATIONAL CONVENTION GRANTS

Mu Alpha Theta will award up to eight \$2,800 Convention Grants to the 2014 Orlando Convention. Each grant will cover free registration for a sponsor and three students, who must not have graduated before the convention. The remaining funds may be used for additional student registration costs or to reimbursed travel expenses. To be eligible for a grant, a Mu Alpha Theta chapter cannot have attended a national convention in the past. The intent of the grant is to allow the teacher and students to see what our national convention is all about. Only schools who have a math sponsor and three eligible students should apply.

To apply for a grant, complete the application as soon as possible. You will be asked for the names of those attending and two paragraphs about activities your chapter has participated in during the past year. We also ask how attending the National Mu Alpha Theta Convention will benefit your chapter.

Schools selected will be contacted before the end of April by phone and email. The only responsibility of the winners is to fill out a survey after the convention regarding their experiences. Applying schools should be ready to submit enrollment information should they be selected. Winners of the grants are encouraged to bring more than three students. Additional attendees will be granted the early bird registration rate, as long as full payment for them is received by the May 15th deadline.

NEED-BASED CONVENTION SCHOLARSHIPS

The sponsor of each chapter attending the National Convention may nominate one member for a Need-Based Scholarship. Up to fifty will be available. The scholarship will cover the member's registration and reimbursement of up to \$250 for transportation to the 2014 Orlando National Convention. The application deadline is May 15th. See *National Convention* on our website to download the application.

NATIONAL OFFICE NEWS *from Kay Weiss*

The snow and ice cannot last forever; spring will come. We have had many schools affected by the cold, wet weather so far this year. If you are a bit behind in entering your new members, you are not alone. Remember, if you need an order rushed to you, we offer \$15 Two-Day and \$25 Overnight FedEx service. Orders must be complete by 4 PM Central to be guaranteed for these delivery choices.

When entering an order for new members, please try to get your names entered when you input your order. If you are short of time, just email the names to us, grouped by year of graduation, and we will enter them for you.

Mu Alpha Theta continues to grow and offer more to its members, sponsors, and chapters. As you read through the newsletter, make note of our Awards, Scholarships, and Grants, **many have a March 1st postmark deadline for submission**. Be sure to nominate your talented students for these. And, let your students know that we have awards for hard-working chapters and for outstanding sponsors. Don't be afraid to nominate one of your chapter sponsors or someone at another school who you feel deserves an award for the service they provide by sponsoring a chapter.

Has your chapter tried participating in one of our **free math competitions**? We offer the **Log 1 Contest**, **the Rocket City Math League (RCML) competitions**, and a **Mathematical Minutes Video Contest**. Details are available at our website. All contests offer prizes, including some random drawings, so even if you have not participated in all rounds of the Log 1 or RCML, you might win prizes. Students entering the Video Contest share a math concept or interesting math problem with others. Making the video can be a fun, creative activity for your members. Think about getting a submission in before the **Feb. 28 midnight EST deadline**.

The 2015 National Convention will NOT be in Hawaii. After many hours of work with numerous hotels and the convention center in Honolulu, we could not bring the cost of a Honolulu convention down to a price that we thought was reasonable, nor provide a proper venue for the event. I know many will be disappointed that we cannot enjoy 2015 in Hawaii, but we hope to have an alternative location announced soon. Plan to take those extra funds you might have been raising for Hawaii and instead join us in Orlando this summer. **If you decide to come, remember that we have Need-Based Scholarships to bring students to convention.**

Beginning this summer, **any sponsor who has served Mu Alpha Theta for 25 years or more may attend the National Convention with free registration, if they are bringing students to a convention.** This "Silver Sponsor Award" is just our way of saying thank you to our most dedicated teachers. Make sure to note on your Convention Application your years of service when you ask for your registration waiver.

Mu Alpha Theta hopes to register over 100,000 student members this year for the first time. **To celebrate this achievement, the 100,000th student member will be awarded a TI-Nspire CAS color screen calculator.** We have started the countdown, and the winner should be known before the end of May. We will notify the winner's sponsor by email as soon as the name is known.

With so much growth, Mu Alpha Theta is looking for additional office space and will be adding another

full-time position soon. With our move, computer glitches are always a possibility when moving IT from one building to another. We will post information on our website, should there be any service delays due to the move.

As soon as our new address is known, we will notify chapters. **It is very important for you to make sure future checks are sent to our new address, once we provide that to you.** While our campus mail service will be aware of the change and will forward mail to us from the old address, incorrectly addressing mail could lead to it being lost. Thank you for your help in making this transition a smooth one.

Any suggestions on what we can do better? Do you have ideas for how we can help your chapter? Please email comments to me or to your governor at any time. We are always open to new ideas and suggestions.

The National Office is moving to a new location! Please watch for an email with our new address in the next few weeks. The address will also be posted online.

GOVERNING COUNCIL DECISIONS FROM THE JAN 2014 MEETING

- Starting in 2014, the Educational Foundation will award any former Mu Alpha Theta member up to a \$1,500 Classroom Teaching Grant during their first or second year in a mathematics teaching job to supply their classroom with mathematics materials or for mathematics professional memberships. The application will include verification of full-time employment in a math teaching position.
- For the year 2014, the Kalin Award winner will be awarded \$4,000.
- Any adult who has been a sponsor of a Mu Alpha Theta chapter for at least 25 years and is attending convention with students may, upon request, have their registration fee waived.

MATHEMATICAL MINUTES VIDEO CONTEST

The Mathematical Minutes Video Contest asks members to create educational and entertaining videos. The contest is run by Doral Academy Charter High School under the direction of Region 4 Governor Sam Koski. **All submissions are due by February 28, 2014 at midnight EST.** Complete the submission form found at www.mualphatheta.org and email it to both Sam Koski at askoski@aol.com and the National Office at matheta@ou.edu.

Schools are allowed no more than three submissions. Only the top submission per school is eligible for prize awards. Award money can be requested to either go to the chapter by check or to the students by gift card. The Orlando National Convention plans to award INTERSCHOOL points for any qualified videos submitted.

Eight videos will be chosen by March 31, 2014 for the final round of judging. **Chapters will vote to rank the top eight videos.** Up to \$2,250 will be available to be split amongst the entries by quality. Final award amounts will be determined by these votes, along with input from the Governing Council.

ANNUAL CHAPTER REPORT

Many chapters have asked us to provide ideas for chapter meetings. Beginning this spring, Mu Alpha Theta will ask every chapter to submit an *Annual Chapter Report*. We will gather ideas from these reports by keywords and hope to provide a searchable database where any sponsor can look up activities using those keywords.

Maybe you are searching for a service project or an idea for raising money. Maybe you would like topics for math talks that your students could present for other members of your club. Maybe you have a great activity to stimulate your members that you are willing to share. Please start thinking about what you might list for others in your report.

When you get the survey link in April, please take the time to enter your activities and ideas to share with others. All chapters that turn in this voluntary report will be eligible to win one of four TI Nspire CX CAS calculators. These will be given away by May 10, so remember to submit your report right away when you get the email.

RETIRED SPONSORS

Thank you to those who have served Mu Alpha Theta:

Retired:

Eau Gallie HS, Melbourne, FL: June Billings
Fletcher HS, Neptune Beach, FL: Nonie Marasco
The Woodlands HS, The Woodlands, TX: Karen Miksch
Ft. Worth Country Day School, Fort Worth, TX: Daniel Foust
Hargrave Military Academy, Chatham, VA: Patricia Morris
East Fairmont HS, Fairmont, WV: Kevin Wright
Bassfield HS, Bassfield, MS: Patricia Posey
Long Beach HS, Long Beach, MS: Diann Sones
Houston HS, Germantown, TN: Sandra Davis
Lyman HS, Longwood, FL: Scott Kimbrough
MN State Com & Tech College, Fergus Falls, MN: Sharon Hintgen
Palos Verdes HS, Palos Verdes Estates, CA: Ed Mertens
Land O' Lakes HS, Land O' Lakes, FL: Susan Defant
Fairland HS, Proctorville, OH: Vicki Shiner
Parish Episcopal School, Dallas, TX: Miriam Antich, 7 yrs
Loveless Academic HS, Montgomery, AL: Kelley Rouze
Heritage HS, Newport News, VA: Fredricka Murphy
Deer Park HS-South Campus, Deer Park, TX: Paula Wilson
North Marion HS, Farmington, WV: Jessie Baker
Wetumpka High School, Wetumpka, AL: Robert Vilardi
Leeds HS, Leeds, AL: Stephanie Freeman
Lyons Township HS, La Grange, IL: Howard Amerlan
Normal Community West HS, Normal, IL: Rick Lee, 18 yrs
Mayo HS, Darlington, SC: Wanda Hodge, 8 yrs
Philadelphia HS for Girls, Philadelphia, PA: Richard Scholnik
Carle Place HS, Carle Place, NY: Juanita Maltese
Shades Mountain Christian School, Hoover, AL: Aida Knox
Pass Christian HS, Pass Christian, MS: Denise Costello

Deceased:

Dacula HS, Dacula, GA: Ashley Muck, 9 yrs

FREE "HARD PROBLEMS" DVD!

Mu Alpha Theta is offering a free copy of *Hard Problems* to any active chapter requesting one. *Hard Problems* is a documentary about the extraordinarily gifted students who represented the U.S. in 2006 at the world's toughest math competition - the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO). One DVD per chapter while supplies last.

FREE MATHEMATICA!

Mu Alpha Theta has free copies of the computer algebra system Mathematica that it will award to a maximum of three members per active chapter. Members should be studying Calculus to receive a copy.

To request copies, sponsors may email matheta@ou.edu with the names and email addresses of the students. The Mathematica software is a downloadable file and the license is good for one school year.

SPONSORS

SPRING ELECTIONS & CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Mu Alpha Theta sponsors will soon be emailed a ballot for the spring elections. Each chapter gets one vote. The ballot will include the following candidates:

President-Elect:

Steve Friedlander, Lawton Chiles HS, FL
Betty Hood, Brentwood HS, TN

Secretary-Treasurer:

Dr. John P. Albert, University of Oklahoma

Governor of Region 3:

Paige Feibelman, Southern Union State CC, AL
Doug Porter, Marion HS, IN
Rita Ralph, Fairfield Christian Academy, OH

Governor of Region 4:

Randy Stowers, Lincoln HS, FL
Kim Woolfenden, Tampa Bay Technical HS, FL

A VITA will be included with the ballot so you can get to know each candidate. Please take the time to read these. Your vote is very important to Mu Alpha Theta. If you are in Regions 1 or 2, you will not be voting on a governor this spring.

There will also be some wording changes to the National Constitution on which to vote. You will be provided the current wording and the proposed wording changes.

Thank you for taking the time to return the email with your vote. **Votes will be due by April 24.**

SEND US YOUR CHAPTER'S FAVORITE MATH VIDEOS OR APPS!

Mu Alpha Theta would like to post online resources for members and teachers to use. Have you found a great math app, math YouTube video, or TED presentation that you think others would enjoy seeing? Any undiscovered gems out there that you are dying to share with others? Email us up to ten videos and/or ten apps that you think would make good resources so we can post these at our website.

All chapters submitting a list, no matter how many entries, will get their school's name entered into a random drawing. We have four TI 89 calculators to give away. It will be up to the school to decide who gets the calculator, if it will be kept as a chapter asset for all members to use or auctioned off to raise funds for the chapter.

Our drawing will take place by May 1, 2014. Get your list in and enter TODAY!

FREE TI CALCULATORS!

Mu Alpha Theta has received a new shipment of TI 89 and a few TI 84 calculators to give away. We will provide one calculator per 20 members to active chapters. We prefer to donate these to schools that have not received them in the past, since our supply is limited. Calculators may be used as a prize for one of your talented members, as a prize in a math competition your chapter runs, to auction to raise funds for your chapter, or to keep as a chapter resource for member use. We may provide additional calculators as competition prizes, depending on requests. The sponsor who emails the request should let us know which calculator(s) they would like to receive.

CHAPTER GRANTS

Has your chapter applied for a chapter grant? Mu Alpha Theta would like to help support chapters so they can provide interesting mathematical experiences for their members, others at their school, or their local community. Chapter grants provide **up to \$1,000 for chapter activities** which stimulate an interest in mathematics. No chapter will be granted more than \$1,000 over time, but a chapter may apply more than once if they have not reached their \$1,000 limit. Here are some ideas for how to use the grant:

Go on a Math-Related Outing: Visit a college or applied math business with a math-related presentation. See how math is used in the “real” world. Funds may be used to reimburse expenses.

Visiting Lecturer Program: Invite a mathematician or scientist to make a presentation to your chapter. Funds may be used to reimburse travel expenses or to provide an honorarium.

Host a Math Competition: This could be for your school, other high schools, middle schools, or elementary schools in your area. Funds could be used to purchase awards, pay for testing, etc.

Host a Math Conference or Math Day: Invite other high schools, middle schools, or elementary schools in your area to a math conference or math day that your chapter hosts. The math conference could include local speakers, a small competition, or presentations from local industries. Funds could be used to purchase materials, pay for custodial help, pay for honorariums, etc.

Please remember that grants will be competitive and not all grant requests may be funded. The grant application can be found on our website under *Grants*.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHAPTER GRANT RECIPIENTS!

Here are some schools who have already received Chapter Grant funding:

Escambia HS - FL

\$1,000 in funds to run a high school math contest

Lima Central Catholic HS - OH

\$100 in funds for a speaker honorarium

W. T. Clarke HS - NY

\$186 in funds for a bottle rocket building contest

Whitmer HS - OH

\$1,000 in funds for two performances of “Eureka!”

John Carroll HS - FL

\$351 in funds for a Pi Day Fun Day event

Go to the **Grants** section of the MA Θ website to find out more and download an application!

NEW! CLASSROOM TEACHING GRANT

Beginning in 2014, the Mu Alpha Theta Educational Foundation will offer Classroom Teaching Grants. Any former Mu Alpha Theta member, who has begun a mathematics teaching career, can apply for up to \$1,500 during their first and/or second year of teaching. Funds may be used to reimburse the teacher for classroom supplies, math society meeting registration, or professional memberships. If you know of a former student that has become a mathematics teacher, please spread the word about these grants.

CHAPTER NEWS

Daniel Coapstick, the sponsor of Patch High School in Stuttgart, Germany, sent us a list of fundraisers completed by their Mu Alpha Theta chapter this past school year. The members are raising funds in order to attend the 2014 Orlando National Convention.

We went to the elementary school twice to do 1) **Math Around the World**, where we showcase math problems and cultures from around the world. All members had to collaborate and create props, backgrounds, and the works to make their respective countries or cities feel somewhat authentic. Each elementary student was given a passport which were then stamped as they traveled from country to country. This idea came from Shane Reagan, the student who introduced Mu Alpha Theta to us and has been a real driving force in the club.

2) **Pi Day**. This was an all day affair as members traveled from classroom to classroom with tons of cookies, challenging different classes to figure out how to find pi by hand using a disc and a ruler. Younger students had to calculate the circumference and area. We also sold tons of pies donated by all the members and even had a Pi in the Face Auction. It was a blast even though getting pied isn't exactly as fun as it sounds. It was a successful fundraiser and we are eager to make it bigger this school year.

3) **Ancient Civilizations Math Bazaar**. We collaborated with the social studies department who has their students do different posters and projects throughout the year that we used to decorate our Bazaar. This is similar to Math Around the World, only we look at the contributions of the ancient civilizations to our modern understanding of mathematics. The cultures we highlighted last year were the Babylonians, the Egyptians, the Hindu-Indians, the Arabs, the Chinese, the Greeks, and the Romans. I created self-running powerpoint presentations to show how math would have worked in those different cultures, and we created a large supply of math problems from those regions. We were also lucky to have local Chinese and Greek restaurants sponsor food for sale. It was an end of year event and only had a small turnout, but we learned from our mistakes and are rescheduling to make it even better this year. Elementary students even got a small history coloring book.

4) This year we added two new events. An **Ultimate Frisbee Olympics** was held at the beginning of the school year. We were able to attract students by offering extra credit math problems, including challenging problems involving parabolas. The winners even got to play a faculty team and, quite surprisingly, the faculty beat the student team. We also sold quite a few tacos at the event. Our other event will be an elementary school event. We will use math detective stories from Scholastic Reader's Math Mavens and create math superheroes. We hope to create individualized comic books for the elementary students. We will have 6 member teams, three of which will be the heroes Mighty Mu, Terrific Theta, and Awesome/Amazing Alpha and three will be villains with names like the Number Cruncher, the Denominator, and Phantom Scrambler.

(continued on next page)



Photos above: Students and teachers participate in the Pi in the Face Auction at Patch High School.

Thank you for all you do and for helping us to serve you better!!



5) We helped out at the **PTA's Family Math Night** which they do four times a year. We just assist them running their stations. Those are quite impressive and interactive, and it's amazing how much elementary schools students already know.

6) We offer **tutoring** every other day. We do this by having tutors go directly to math teachers and assist their students in class. This is quite successful, and the teachers are glad to have extra, dependable help.

PI DAY CELEBRATIONS

Anita Szombathelyi, the sponsor of Airline High School in Bossier City, Louisiana, sent us information on their annual Pi Day celebrations.

Mu Alpha Theta members of Airline High School In Bossier City, Louisiana, are getting ready for another fun, math, and pie-filled Pi Day celebration in March. This will be the third annual school-wide Pi Day at Airline that both faculty and students are eagerly anticipating. The Pi Day t-shirt contest is already under way. The t-shirts, which can be worn during Pi Day or as a spirit shirt on Fridays, will be sold to faculty and students.

March 14th will start with a competition where each homeroom solves Pi-related questions to win pies for the whole class. The excitement, fun, and math problem solving continues during lunch. Teachers who raise the most money during the week leading up to the big day will get pied by the runner-ups. The money raised and matched by Mu Alpha Theta will go to Plantation Elementary School's math club. During lunch, students can solve a grade appropriate Pi-related math problem and receive a delicious slice of pie if they succeed. At 1:59 pm the Pi Digits Recital contest will commence. Last year, several students memorized more than the first 100 digits of Pi. Mu Alpha Theta finishes the celebration with a monthly meeting where a mathematician gives a talk to members about Pi or an other interesting topic. It is an excellent outreach opportunity for the chapter, and the talk of the town for months!



MU ALPHA THETA AWARDS

Mu Alpha Theta has five different awards, each presented annually. For eligibility information or to download an application, go to the *Awards* section of www.mualphatheta.org.

ANDREE AWARD

The Andree Award, named in honor of Mu Alpha Theta founders Richard and Josephine Andree, is awarded to a student interested in becoming a mathematics teacher. Two awards are presented annually, one to a high school senior member and one to a former or current member now in college. Each Andree Award winner receives a \$2,500 cash prize. The winner may choose to receive the \$2,500 as scholarship money to the college he or she is attending, rather than as a cash prize. **Applications are due March 1st.**

RUBIN AWARD

The Rubin Award was named in honor of Diane Rubin who worked tirelessly at the National Office of Mu Alpha Theta for twenty years, before her retirement in December 2003. The award is presented to the Mu Alpha Theta chapter which has a history of outstanding mathematics service to its community or its school for at least two years. This service must promote interest in mathematics and benefit a group other than its own chapter. A prize of \$500 and a plaque will be presented to the winning chapter. The award will be presented at the National Convention, but a representative of the chapter need not be present to win. However, to encourage the chapter to attend, the winner will also receive a Convention Grant of up to \$2,500. No school may receive the award more than once in a five year period. **Applications are due March 1st.**

KALIN AWARD

The Kalin Award was created by a grant from Dr. Robert Kalin of Florida State University, a former President of Mu Alpha Theta. The Mu Alpha Theta Educational Foundation continues to support the Kalin Award. This award recognizes graduating high school seniors who have excelled in mathematics and performed notable service to Mu Alpha Theta communities. Interviews of the top candidates will be conducted at the July meeting of the Governing Council. Members present at the National Convention will be interviewed in person. Members who are not attending the National Convention will be interviewed electronically. The winner of the award receives a \$4,000 prize and a distinguished plaque. The winner may choose to receive the \$4,000 as scholarship money to the college he or she will be attending, rather than as a cash prize. **Applications are due March 1st.**

SISTER SCHOLASTICA AWARD

The Sister Scholastica Most Committed Sponsor Award was created in 1994, at the suggestion of the student delegates at the National Convention. The award is named after Sister Scholastica, who was a dedicated sponsor from 1972 and a fixture at the National Conventions, until her retirement. Only sponsors attending the National Convention may be nominated. One student from their school will speak to the Student Delegates who vote to select the winner. The winner of the Sister Scholastica Award will receive a \$2,000 cash prize and a \$1,000 grant for their chapter. **Applications are due June 16th.**

HUNEKE AWARD

Mu Alpha Theta established this award in 1986 in honor of Harold Huneke, a former Secretary/Treasurer of the National Mu Alpha Theta. Each year the Huneke Award honors a sponsor who has made significant contributions to Mu Alpha Theta. This award is a peer-nominated award. In addition, nominees must have served as a Mu Alpha Theta sponsor for at least five years, have attended at least two National Conventions (or will attend a second convention this year), and not currently be a member of the Mu Alpha Theta Governing Council. The winner will be announced at the National Convention, but does not need to be present at the Convention to win. The award includes a \$2,000 cash award to the winner and an award of \$1,000 to the sponsor's chapter or former chapter. **Applications are due June 16th.**

STUDENTS

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MESSAGE FROM YOUR STUDENT DELEGATE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone,

Recently, I realized that with every day that passes, the end of my Mu Alpha Theta ‘career’ creeps a little closer. I’m not sure when I first realized this—especially since I’ve pretty much been in denial about that fact for a while now—but every once in a while, I consider it and a rush of nostalgia follows. Of course, coping with this realization is made easier by frequent regional and invitational Mu Alpha Theta competitions here in Florida that give a false sense of never-ending continuity to MAΘ. MAΘ has been such an important part of my life since I started as a clueless, small 9th grader who simply liked math, that I can’t imagine leaving. Through MAΘ, I have had the unique opportunity to attend conventions in scenic cities such as Boston and San Diego and meet a very friendly and welcoming community, bonded through the love of math, that I am glad to now be a part of.

But anyway, I probably shouldn’t get too sappy here so, on the bright side, with every day that passes, the National Convention also creeps a little closer! As you probably already know, this year’s National Convention is in Orlando, Florida. As usual, it is filled with a great blend of activities and competitive math competitions, highlighted by the many theme parks in Orlando that we will be able to attend while at the convention. I am confident that this convention will be another experience to remember, just as all of the conventions that I’ve attended have been.

However, amidst all of the events of the National Convention, there is one important order of business, namely the Student Delegate Meeting. At these meetings, one or two students from each school must attend in order to represent their school. It is important that all schools send delegates as we would want the meetings to be a true and full representation of the schools at the National Convention.

For those of you just entering MAΘ, do the best to make the most of your time as MAΘ truly has a great community and a lot to offer. If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact me at sanchit@bellsouth.net. See you at the next convention, and until then, good luck with all of your endeavors, whether they be mathematical or not!

Sanchit Bhattacharjee
Student Delegate President

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Mu Alpha Theta and our Educational Foundation will award up to \$190,000 in scholarships this year. Scholarship funds may be used within the first eighteen months after the date the scholarship is awarded. Any graduating high school senior or two-year college student who is an active member of a current chapter is eligible. **Each chapter may submit applications for up to two members.** It is up to the chapter sponsor to determine what names to submit, if more than two students wish to apply.

Two \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded to the top two scholarship candidates: the Mary Rhein Memorial Scholarship and Sallie Scudder Memorial Scholarship. Our remaining scholarships will provide \$4,000 each.

QUESTBRIDGE COLLEGE PREP SCHOLARSHIP

QuestBridge is currently seeking applicants for its 2014 College Prep Scholarship program. QuestBridge is an organization which seeks to connect high-achieving low-income students with top-tier colleges. Through the College Prep Scholarship program, approximately 40 students will receive full scholarships to attend summer school programs at Brandeis, Emory, Harvard, Notre Dame, Penn, Stanford, or Yale. The scholarship covers the cost of travel, tuition, and room & board. These conferences will help low-income students learn how to successfully apply to leading colleges.

The QuestBridge College Prep Scholarship program is for **high school juniors** who have shown outstanding academic ability despite facing economic challenges. To apply, go to www.questbridge.org to fill out the application. **Applications are due March 26, 2014.**

QuestBridge also runs the National College Match program for high school seniors. This program matches high-achieving low-income high school seniors with a full four-year scholarship to one of its 35 top-tier colleges. Applications for this are due in late September 2014. Go to www.questbridge.org for more information.

Nominate your sponsor for the Huneke and Sister Scholastica Awards!
Applications are due June 16th and available online.

SUMMER GRANTS

Mu Alpha Theta is offering Summer Math Program/Research Grants to members of a chapter of Mu Alpha Theta. To be considered for the grant, the member's chapter must have been active during the previous twelve months and the student must have been a member for at least the semester prior to the application. Grants may be requested for up to \$2,000 per member per year. No student will receive more than \$4,000 in Summer Grant funds.

High school members may request grants through the summer after high school graduation. Two-year college students may request money through the summer after their graduation from their member college. Acceptable programs must include higher level mathematics. Coursework taken using grant money may not be used for courses that are typically available at the high school or the student's home college, such as Calculus I, Calculus II or Statistics. Grant money may be used to pay tuition or fees, room and board, or transportation to a summer math program. Money will also be granted to reimburse expenses for doing research in mathematics or applied mathematics. This may include, but is not limited to, housing, travel, publication fees, or supplies. Money provided for tuition and fees will be sent directly to the institution offering the program. Student's receiving reimbursed expenses will be asked to provide receipts for reimbursed items and a social security number for tax purposes. The member's service to and active participation in his/her Mu Alpha Theta chapter may be considered in the grant selection process.

Programs that may qualify include: PROMYS, Texas Mathworks, Canada/USA Mathcamp, the Secondary School Program at Harvard, the Women's Technology Program at MIT, AwesomeMath, Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth, Stanford University Mathematics Camp, COSMOS. Other programs will also be considered.