

MATH HONOR SOCIETY

Purpose: To foster and encourage the study of Mathematics. Qualifications: completion of Algebra 2; current enrollment in an advanced Mathematics course; maintain minimum overall 3.5 GPA; maintain at least at 3.8 GPA in Mathematics courses; participation in Mathematics competitions; participation in providing tutoring in Mathematics.

Mu Alpha Theta is the National High School and Two-Year College Mathematics Honor Society with over 75,000 student members in more than 1,500 schools. We are dedicated to inspiring keen interest in mathematics, developing strong scholarship in the subject, and promoting the enjoyment of mathematics in high school and two-year college students.

Mu Alpha Theta achieves these goals by:

- Providing a method for schools to recognize and encourage those students who enjoy and excel in mathematics.
- Organizing a National Convention for teachers and students to participate in math-related events and interact with others from across the country.
- Rewarding outstanding extracurricular achievement by offering special awards to both students and their faculty advisors.
- Providing Mathematics Competitions to participating members at their own school through the Log 1 Contest and the Rocket City Math League.

The Mu Alpha Theta National High School and Junior College Mathematics Club was founded in 1957 by Dr. and Mrs. Richard V. Andree at the University of Oklahoma. In his words, Mu Alpha Theta is "an organization dedicated to promoting scholarship in mathematics and establishing math as an integral part of high school and junior college education." The name Mu Alpha Theta was constructed from the Greek lettering for the phonemes m, a, and th.

Pi Mu Epsilon, the National Collegiate Honor Society of Mathematics, contributed funds for the organization's initial expenses; the University of Oklahoma provided space, clerical help, and technical assistance. The Mathematical Association of America, a primary sponsor of the organization since 1958, and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics nominated the first officers and Board of Governors. The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics became an official sponsor in 1998, followed by The American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges in 2002.

The first Mu Alpha Theta National Convention was held at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas in 1968. Each year the convention brings together hundreds of teachers and students from across the country for five days of math-related events. The Convention rotates among our chapters and has been held in locations all over the country. Recent Conventions were in Honolulu, Hawaii and Fort Collins, Colorado.

The official journal of Mu Alpha Theta, The Mathematical Log, was first issued in 1957 on mimeograph and was in printed form starting in 1958. It was published four times during the school year until 2002 and featured articles, reports, news and problems for students.

The Kalin Award was initiated in 1981 to reward outstanding students. The Huneke Award and the Sister Scholastica Award followed in 1986 and 1995 to recognize outstanding Chapter sponsors. The Andree Award was created in 1987 to encourage students who plan to become mathematics teachers. The Rubin Award was initiated in 2004 to reward a chapter which has shown a history of outstanding service to its community for at least two years with a mathematics project.

Mu Alpha Theta offered the Vector Scholars Program in 2002 to recognize and reward students for outstanding efforts in mathematics and math education. In 2006, the organization began offering merit scholarships to outstanding members.