Alliance of Indigenous Math Circles

WHAT
An educational program connecting professional mathematicians from around the world with indigenous students and their teachers. This effort grows out of a five-year effort (Navajo Nation Math Circles) and seeks to expand its impact by helping indigenous communities to discover the fun and beauty of mathematics as the birthright of all people.

COMPONENTS
For K-12 Students
• After school math circles
• Math festivals
• Summer Math Camps

For Teachers
• PD workshops
• School-year mentoring
• Scripts and other materials

DIRECTORS
• Henry Fowler, Diné College
• Tatiana Shubin, San Jose State U.
• Bob Klein, Ohio U.
• Amanda Serenevy, Riverbend Math Ctr.

CONTACT
aimathcircles@gmail.com
https://aimathcircles.org/

TWITTER
https://twitter.com/aimathcircles/

The AIMC grows out of Navajo Math Circles. See the PBS documentary: http://www.zalafilms.com/navajo/

Proud to have the support of:
Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI)
Carnegie Corporation of New York
American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)
Riverbend Community Math Center
San Jose State University
Ohio University

Join in!
More information and how you can help

Mathematician Visits

We have organized more than 100 mathematician-led visits to indigenous schools over the last five years. Well-known mathematicians come from all over the US, from universities and national organizations to lead sessions at schools. We have had mathematicians from as far away as Spain and Switzerland. These mathematicians may work with fewer than 10 students in a trailer school house or 600 students in an assembly in large modern school building. Most sessions are for groups of around 30 students at a time.

Teacher Workshops

Currently, we run at least three and up to six teacher workshops per year. These take place at different locations, so we can reach teachers from different parts of the region. At these teacher workshops we model open mathematical explorations, and talk about bringing problem solving into the classroom.

Julia Robinson Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Festivals

We have helped to organize at least 20 community math festivals, including some STEM festivals. In one case we had more than 700 students and their families attend a two-day festival in the Navajo Nation.

Teacher Mentoring Program

We send a small number of teachers to intensive one-week teacher camps. We also provide scripts for math sessions that they can use in class or outside of class for engaging math sessions. Hold multiple teleconferences with the teachers until they feel completely ready to use the scripts.

Summer Math Camps

For the last five years, we have helped to organize and run an exciting, two-week summer camp that was featured in a PBS documentary called, Navajo Math Circles. In Summer 2017, the AIMC ran its first one-week residential summer math camp at Navajo Preparatory School, hosting students in grades 7 to 12. A typical day included puzzles and problem solving, interactive math sessions, cultural activities and sports. Special days included a swimming, visits to a planetarium, math competitions and presentations by prominent mathematicians and scientists.

Needs as we Expand to Indigenous Groups throughout the U.S. and Beyond

- Mathematicians/Scientists to serve as role models and to make school visits.
- Help with Funding: We have been running our program on a patchwork of funds.

If you have questions or feel that you can help, we invite your contact at aimathcircles@gmail.com