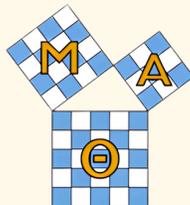


MU ALPHA THETA

March 2026



DANA WADE

A Message from the Executive Director

Hello, Mu Alpha Theta Chapters and Sponsors!

Spring is our busiest season—which is just a fancy way of saying: your National Office is currently running on math, momentum, and a truly heroic amount of inbox management. 😊 Here's what's happening right now:

Contests & Awards: the “April 1” Olympics

- **Scholarships:** We received **110 scholarship applications** and they are currently being scored. **Winners will be announced on April 1.**
- **T-Shirt Design Contest:** We received **47 design entries** (creativity is thriving). **The winning design will be announced on April 1.**
- **Math Minutes Video Contest:** We received **83 entries!** Thank you for the effort, energy, and editing skills!
 - **Finalists announced: April 1**
 - **Voting ends: April 28**
 - **Winners announced: May 1**



Governing Council Elections

Voting for new MAΘ Governing Council members **will open on March 16**, with **ballots emailed to active chapters**. This year's elections are for:

- **President-Elect**
- **Region 3 Governor**
- **Region 4 Governor**

Voting will **close on April 24**, and we will announce the **new members on April 27**. All candidates are introduced in this newsletter. Please take a few minutes to read about them and encourage your chapter to participate.

Sponsor of the Year Awards

A reminder that **Sponsor of the Year applications are due March 16**. Sponsors may **self-nominate**, or be nominated by a **Mu Alpha Theta chapter member** or a **colleague**. One sponsor from each of our **four regions** will receive:

- **\$1,000 for the sponsor**
- **\$1,000 for their chapter**

If you know a sponsor who goes above and beyond (including you), please make sure they're recognized.

2026 National Convention: Registration & Grants

Registration for the 2026 National Convention is open, and we are **accepting convention grant applications**. Please be sure to complete **all online and snail-mail documentation by May 1**. We are looking forward to a fantastic convention and can't wait to see your students shine.

One more thing: **our graduation regalia is flying off the shelves**. Please don't wait! Order for your graduating seniors **EARLY** to ensure they can proudly wear their Mu Alpha Theta **stole, cord, tassel, button, or medal** on their big day.

Thank you so much for everything you do. Mu Alpha Theta sponsors support students all year long, and your commitment, time, and encouragement make a measurable difference. We appreciate you more than we can say (and we are a math organization, so that's saying something).

With gratitude,

Dana Wade

Executive Director

ALBERT DING

A Message from the Student Delegate President

It's finally time for Mu Alpha Theta March! A social media post will go live every single day to celebrate our community of mathematicians across the world. Follow along and join in on our Instagram @mualphatheta!

With convention registration now open and spring events going into full swing, it's a great time for students to get more involved. Our monthly student meetings remain an open environment for students to ask any questions on how to do so. The next one is March 29 at 6:30 PM CST on Zoom:

<https://nova.zoom.us/j/9677355280>

Students that miss any meetings can catch recordings and follow-ups in our GroupMe: https://groupme.com/join_group/109882514/BGLzACfw

As more exciting opportunities come in the next few months, make sure to stay tuned!

Best Regards,
Albert Ding



2026 Mu Alpha Theta National Convention

Frisco, TX

Register Now!



Registration for the 2026 Mu Alpha Theta National Convention is now open!

We're excited to welcome chapters to Frisco, Texas from **June 28 – July 3, 2026** for a week of math, competition, and community.

With the 2026 World Cup taking place in Frisco during the same week, both flights and hotel rooms are filling quickly. If your chapter hasn't secured accommodations yet, we strongly encourage you to do so as soon as possible. Schools needing more than nine rooms should call **1-800-774-1500** to arrange a group reservation. We can't wait to see you in Frisco this summer.

Click here to book
your rooms!



405-325-0144 | 3200 Marshall Ave, STE 150, Norman, OK 73019 | info@mualphatheta.org

APPROACHING DEADLINES



Regional Sponsor of the Year Award

Due March 16, 2026

Regional Sponsor of the Year Award Established in 2015, this award honors exceptional Mu Alpha Theta sponsors who have made significant contributions to their chapters and regions. Each regional winner receives **\$1,000**, and their chapter also receives **\$1,000**. We invite sponsors across every region to apply and share the incredible work they're doing for their chapters!

APPLY NOW 



National Convention Grant

Due April 1, 2026

For 2026, Mu Alpha Theta is offering a limited number of grants to help first-time chapters experience the National Convention in Frisco, Texas. Each grant covers registration for at least three eligible students and a sponsor, with remaining funds available for extra registrations or travel support. If your chapter has never attended before, this is a wonderful opportunity to join us for the first time.

APPLY NOW 

MEET THE CANDIDATES!

President Elect

(All 4 regions vote)



Rita Ralph

[See Rita's resume here](#)

I am honored to run for President of Mu Alpha Theta, an organization that helps foster students' love of mathematics. I have previously served as President, Governor, and 2-Year College Liaison, and each role has strengthened my commitment to supporting students, advisors, and chapters at every level. Math has always been more than a subject to

me, it is a genuine passion. When asked about my hobbies, math is almost always part of the answer. From hosting elementary math competitions, volunteering as a coach for ARML teams, serving on the MAT board, and teaching college math classes in my spare time, I truly enjoy finding ways to share the excitement of problem-solving with others.

At the national level, my goal is to expand involvement by encouraging more schools to join Mu Alpha Theta and by supporting current chapters in reaching beyond their walls. I am especially interested in promoting outreach to local middle schools, junior highs, and elementary schools to inspire younger students and build strong mathematical communities early on.

Outside of math, I love to travel and take advantage of every school break to explore. I have visited nearly all 50 states, including Alaska and Hawaii, and my spouse and I are excited to begin our next adventures abroad. I look forward to bringing that same curiosity, energy, and enthusiasm to serving Mu Alpha Theta as President.

MEET THE CANDIDATES!

President Elect

(All 4 regions vote)



Derek Rampal

[See Derek's resume here](#)

Derek Rampal brings a unique blend of academic excellence, industry experience, and a decade of dedicated service to the Mu Alpha Theta community. A former Mu Alpha Theta competitor himself, Derek's journey has come full circle as a teacher at American Heritage, where he serves as the Director of their Math Competition Program.

Derek holds a Master of Science from the University of Florida and a Master's in Mathematics from Florida Atlantic University. His professional roots in engineering and finance allow him to offer students a practical perspective on how mathematical theory translates into high-value real-world careers.

With nearly ten years of experience as a Mu Alpha Theta coach and sponsor, Derek has been a cornerstone of the Florida math community. His leadership includes:

- Former Vice President of FAMAT (Florida Association of Mu Alpha Theta).
- Host and Organizer for numerous regional competitions and the State Convention.
- Recipient of the Sister Scholastica Award, recognizing him as the nation's most dedicated sponsor.

A father of four with a lifelong passion for education, Derek is committed to the growth of the national organization. As President, his primary goals are to expand national membership levels and reinvigorate student participation in Mu Alpha Theta contests across the country, ensuring the next generation of mathematicians has the resources and platform to excel.

MEET THE CANDIDATES!

Region 3 Governor

(Region 3 votes)



Betty Hood

[See Betty's resume here](#)

Working with Mu Alpha Theta at both state and national levels has been a big part of my life for over 22 years. I have been a Mu Alpha Theta sponsor for 22 years at Brentwood High School in Brentwood, Tennessee. I retired from teaching at the end of the 2018-2019 school year but am still actively working with the Mu Alpha Theta chapter at Brentwood.

I love teaching mathematics and providing an opportunity for students to excel and compete in mathematics at State and National Conventions. I have been a recipient of both the Huneke Award and the Sister Scholastica Award for sponsors. As a retiree, I have been able to do some short-term substitutions in mathematics for colleagues so that their classes can continue to follow the curriculum and not get behind. When not busy traveling with my husband and visiting our 3 grandchildren, I also enjoy reading, working jigsaw puzzles, quilting, and competing in ballroom dance.

I have been a part of the Governing Council of Mu Alpha Theta off and on for almost 12 years. I enjoy working with others to help lead this organization to be the best that it can be and to provide multiple opportunities for our members by presenting scholarships and awards to help them further their careers in mathematics and the sciences. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve Mu Alpha Theta for 4 more years.



MEET THE CANDIDATES!

Region 4 Governor

(Region 4 votes)



Storie Atkins

[See Storie's resume here](#)

Since 2002, I have had the privilege of serving as a chapter sponsor of Mu Alpha Theta, annually advising and mentoring more than 100 student members. For over two decades, this role has been one of the most meaningful aspects of my professional life. Guiding students as they grow not only in mathematical skill but also in leadership, collaboration, and service has been both an honor and a joy.

As chapter sponsor, I have developed extensive experience in chapter management, competition coordination, student leadership development, and community engagement. I oversee a comprehensive program that extends far beyond meetings and membership. I coordinate our schoolwide peer tutoring initiative, in which Mu Alpha Theta members serve as mathematics tutors, providing academic support while modeling scholarship and service. I also organize three mathematics competitions hosted by our school each year. In these events, our members are deeply involved in writing questions, preparing materials, and facilitating the competitions. Additionally, I coordinate our participation in annual competitions such as RCML and Georgia Math Leagues. Managing a large, active chapter has required organization, innovation, and a consistent commitment to Mu Alpha Theta's mission of inspiring keen interest and service in mathematics. Mu Alpha Theta has profoundly shaped the culture of mathematics in my school and has deeply enriched my professional journey. I am eager to extend my service beyond the chapter level and contribute to the organization on a broader scale. It would be an honor to serve on the Mu Alpha Theta Governing Council.



MEET THE CANDIDATES!

Region 4 Governor

(Region 4 votes)



Jason Consolo

[See Jason's resume here](#)

Jason Consolo is an International Baccalaureate Mathematics teacher at King High School. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from Florida Gulf Coast University and is certified to teach Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry and Computer Sciences. He is currently a graduate student at the University of South Florida pursuing an M.Ed. in Mathematics

Curriculum and Instruction. The 2026 school year will be his 19th year teaching and his sixth in Hillsborough County. Prior to this, Jason taught in Cape Coral, Florida at his alma mater, Cape Coral High School. Throughout his career he has taught Chemistry, Geometry, IB Theory of Knowledge, Algebra II, AP Calculus, AICE Thinking Skills, AP Precalculus and the IB Analysis and Approaches classes. Jason coaches King High School's Mu Alpha Theta chapter and is a member of the FAMAT State Board of Directors where he holds the elected position of Secretary. Jason and his wife, Shelley, established roots in Cape Coral in 2002 where they were both educators working in separate schools. Jason was ultimately led to the Tampa Bay area by the promise of a new adventure in a bigger city and a job at an IB school with one of the most storied and successful Mu Alpha Theta programs in the region. His son, Elliot, attended King High School, and Jason was lucky enough to have him in his class for both his Junior and Senior years—an experience that stands out as a major highlight in Jason's career as an educator. Elliot currently attends the University of Central Florida where he is majoring in Computer Science.

Jason's educational philosophy is centered on inquiry-based learning with a focus on questioning techniques. At its core, he believes that active engagement is the key to learning and synthesizing information for mastery. His greatest achievements are directly tied to the success of his current and former students; if they leave him as better mathematicians and thinkers, then he has done his job.



MEET THE CANDIDATES!

Region 4 Governor

(Region 4 votes)

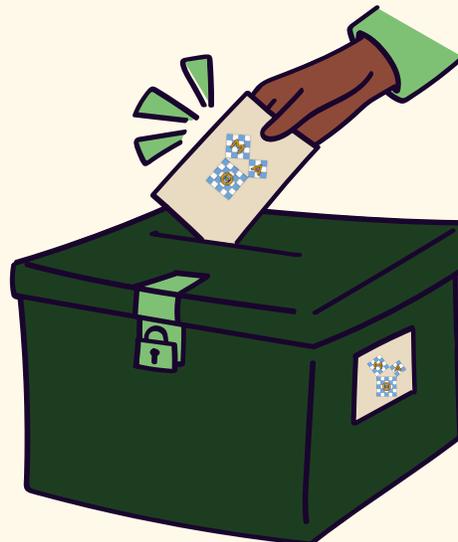


Michele Rydborn

[See Michele's resume here](#)

Michele is a mathematics instructor and Mu Alpha Theta sponsor at Ransom Everglades School in Coconut Grove, Florida. "I am passionate about strengthening critical thinking in mathematics while meeting students with compassion, encouragement, and support. I believe students thrive when they are both challenged and valued as individuals."

Check your emails for the ballots!
Voting opens **March 16, 2026** and
closes **April 24, 2026!**



NEW CHAPTERS



SCHOOL	CITY	STATE	REGION
Zama Middle High School	APO	Japan	1
Mountain Ridge High School	Glendale	AZ	1
Redondo Union High School	Redondo Beach	CA	1
Vandebilt Catholic High School	Houma	LA	2
PSJA Memorial Early College High School	Alamo	TX	2
Manchester High School	Manchester	CT	3
Braintree High School	Braintree	MA	3
Cleveland Central High School	Cleveland	MS	3

New Chapters (02/01/2026 - 02/28/2026)

NEW CHAPTERS



SCHOOL	CITY	STATE	REGION
Middlesex College	Edison	NJ	3
Eastport South Manor Junior Senior High School	Manorville	NY	3
West Babylon Senior High School	West Babylon	NY	3
Gateway High School	Fort Myers	FL	4
The Catholic High School of Baltimore	Baltimore	MD	4
North Hills High School	Pittsburgh	PA	4
Thomas Dale High School	Chester	VA	4

New Chapters (02/01/2026 - 02/28/2026)

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[**info@mualphatheta.org**](mailto:info@mualphatheta.org).

Thanks for being part of our Mu Alpha Theta community.