

# MU ALPHA THETA NEWSLETTER

## NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

### NATIONAL OFFICERS

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Welcome back to a new year of school and Mu Alpha Theta activities! Just as you will be meeting new students in the classroom and inducting new members into your Mu Alpha Theta chapters, we also have quite a few new faces in the national organization of Mu Alpha Theta. We have a new Executive Director, Jennifer Bookwalter, who many of you met in St. Louis at the National Convention. She will be taking over from Kay Weiss who is retiring in a few months after serving as Executive Director for almost fourteen years. Best wishes to Kay as she gets a lot more family and travel time!

We also have several new members on the Governing Council of Mu Alpha Theta. Our new President-Elect is Kathy Mowers from Owensboro Community and Technical College in Owensboro, Kentucky. Our new Region 1 Governor is Dr. Deanna Wasman from Hickman High in Columbia, MO. Our new Region 2 Governor is Olvin Carias from KIPP Generations Collegiate in Houston, TX. We also have a new MAA Representative, Chuck Garner, from Rockdale County High in Conyers, GA. Chuck is also a Mu Alpha Theta sponsor for his chapter.

A huge thank you goes to Todd Taylor, the host of the 2016 National Convention in St. Louis, from Vestavia Hills High School in Vestavia Hills, AL, Paul Kustos, the Test Coordinator, from Mountain Brook High School in Mountain Brook, AL, and helper Jason Hsu from Washington University in St. Louis, MO. The 783 students and chaperones who attended enjoyed a week of great weather, a beautiful college campus, fun excursions, and excellent competitions. Congratulations to Buchholz High School from Gainesville, FL, on winning their tenth consecutive Sweepstakes award! Wilbur Li of W. P. Clements High in Sugar Land, TX, won the prestigious Kalin Award. Dr. Joseph Phillips of Warren County Community College in Washington, NJ, the winner of the Region 3 Regional Sponsor of the Year Award, was present to accept a plaque at the convention.

Please take some time to peruse the Mu Alpha Theta website. This site contains a wealth of information that you will find helpful when planning your new school year- information on free contests, chapter activities, scholarships, sponsor and student awards, chapter and convention grants, and National Convention information, just to name a few. You can also log in to your account to find schools in your area that have chapters. Perhaps you can exchange club activity ideas or partner up to host a competition. Please remind senior students of the many scholarships that are available from Mu Alpha Theta and encourage them to apply. If you are looking for some money to participate in a competition or to put on a club activity, \$1000 Chapter Grants and \$500 Competition Grants are available. Ideas for using a Chapter Grant can also be found on our website.

Begin planning now for the 2017 National Convention in Buffalo! The convention will be held July 16-21 at the Adams Mark Hotel in Buffalo with an excursion to Niagara Falls. The convention packet with price and schedule will be online this fall. If you have not attended a National Convention, there are Convention Grants available to offset the cost for a sponsor and at least three students. Money has been set aside for this- do not be afraid to apply for a grant! I attended my first National Convention on a Convention Grant back in 2008. It's an amazing experience for both you and your students to meet and compete against outstanding mathletes from all over the country!

Mu Alpha Theta has again partnered with Study Buddy, an online math and science tutoring program that serves students in middle and high schools. Your students can earn service hours for their participation and even win \$1,000 to help pay their way to the 2017 National Convention. Visit the Mu Alpha Theta website and look under "Chapters" for more information.

Don't forget to contact your middle school colleagues and tell them about Chi Alpha Mu, our middle school and junior high math club. Information is available at [www.chialphamu.com](http://www.chialphamu.com). You will eventually inherit their students, so piquing their interest in a math club and math competitions before high school will pay dividends for you later.

Finally, if you have questions or suggestions, contact your Regional Governor or Jennifer Bookwalter, Executive Director of Mu Alpha Theta.

I hope you have a wonderful school year!

*Betty Hood*

Mu Alpha Theta President

## MESSAGE FROM THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I'm excited and honored to have been chosen as Mu Alpha Theta's newest Executive Director. Kay is leaving some gigantic shoes for me to fill and I hope to continue the growth and love for mathematics she has worked so hard to foster. We will continue to provide excellent customer service when you order from us and we are always here for your questions.

It was an absolute pleasure to have met so many new people at the 2016 National Convention. We are in the midst of planning a fantastic convention for you next July in Buffalo, New York, with a trip to beautiful Niagara Falls included. The competition and camaraderie with students from across the country will create long-lasting memories, so we hope you make plans to join us next July.

Since January, Mu Alpha Theta and its Educational Foundation have awarded more than \$209,000 in scholarships and more than \$190,000 in other grants, awards, and prizes for our talented members, dedicated sponsors, and active chapters. I can't emphasize enough: please take advantage of the incredible amount of scholarships, grants, and awards that Mu Alpha Theta offers! This past year, neither the Sister Scholastica nor the Huneke Award received nominations. I know there are many dedicated and deserving sponsors out there, so please nominate your sponsors to recognize their devotion to your chapter and Mu Alpha Theta. Please check out our website for more information.

We will also become more active on social media, with a Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube page (handles provided later in this newsletter). We will be holding some contests, so please follow us!

I'm looking forward to an exciting fall at Mu Alpha Theta's National Office and I can't wait to hear about the events your chapters plan as the semester progresses. If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes for a fun, successful semester!



Jennifer Bookwalter  
Mu Alpha Theta Executive Director



We appreciate your support!

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Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchases to the Mu Alpha Theta Educational Foundation. Select us as your charity of choice on [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and start shopping today!

## MESSAGE FROM KAY WEISS

When I walked out of a mathematics college classroom in December 2002 and accepted the job as Executive Director of Mu Alpha Theta, they told me I could do the job part-time and continue to teach if I liked. Hah! Needless to say, this was more than a part-time job.

As a dedicated teacher of mathematics, astronomy and physics, I was doing what I loved. Each classroom of students was a new challenge, a group to be molded to see the universe unfold through the infinite beauty of mathematics. But, I accepted the position with Mu Alpha Theta because of its mission to stimulate interest in mathematics. It seemed to me that Mu Alpha Theta could do much more than this. I could envision an entity able to support talented math students with grants and scholarships, provide added financial incentive to sponsors, and to support chapters with free prizes and money to help pay for mathematical activities. I could see us having online math competitions that many more members could participate in than just those who came to the summer National Convention.

Fast forward to 2016. From the contents of this newsletter, you will see the fruits of my labor. Each year, through careful planning and management, Mu Alpha Theta has grown to serve more students, teachers, and schools. On June 30, 2016, we had over 113,000 current members and almost 600,000 graduated members, from records that were begun in 2003. One of my greatest joys has been to see how many talented members are returning to run chapters of their own, when they start teaching math at a high school or Two-Year College. With the help of the thousands of teachers that make this organization great, Mu Alpha Theta now can support all the activities I envisioned.

I will miss everyone I have met and worked with in Mu Alpha Theta. I have communicated online and by phone with thousands of teachers over the years, many of whom I have never had the opportunity to meet in person. As all of our graduating members say, I will especially miss National Conventions and the chance to interact in person with the students and teachers who attend.

I look forward to reading future newsletters that will share the great things our chapters are doing and tell me about the wonderful students involved. My best wishes to you all and my heartfelt thanks for letting me serve you and interact with you all.

*Kay Weiss*

### *Did you know?*

Nearly 140 new schools chartered with Mu Alpha Theta in the 2015/2016 school year. There were also 118 schools who reactivated their old chapter!

# 2017 NATIONAL CONVENTION

## ADAM'S MARK HOTEL-BUFFALO, NY

The 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Mu Alpha Theta National Convention will be held July 16-21, 2017 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Buffalo, NY. Dr. Thom Morris of Berkeley Preparatory School (FL) will host this year's convention. Dr. Paul Kustos from Mountain Brook High School (AL) will serve as test coordinator.

The registration fee will be \$550 if a \$50 deposit per person is paid by April 1st, 2017. Anyone not paying the early deposit will pay \$600. **All final registration payments must postmarked no later than May 15th.** The information packet is available online.

The registration fee includes convention activities, lodging at the hotel, most meals (except Wednesday lunch and Friday breakfast), and a t-shirt. Also included will be a field trip to Niagara Falls with access on the US side to numerous museums, the Maid of the Mist cruise, a walk behind the falls, and much more! Competitors must be a registered member or associate of Mu Alpha Theta.



### PASSPORT REMINDER!

Sponsors, if you or your students would like to tour the Canadian side of Niagara Falls, please remember to bring updated passports!

## NATIONAL CONVENTION GRANTS

Mu Alpha Theta will award a limited number of \$4,000 Convention Grants to the National Convention. Each grant will cover free registration for a sponsor and at least three students, who must not have graduated before the convention. The remaining funds may be used for additional registration costs or to reimburse travel expenses. If a school is awarded a Convention Grant, additional participants from that school will only be charged the early rate of \$550. To be eligible for a grant, a Mu Alpha Theta chapter cannot have attended a National Convention previously. 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 at least three eligible students should fill out the application.

**The application deadline is April 1st, but grants are awarded throughout the year.**

## NEED-BASED CONVENTION SCHOLARSHIPS

The sponsor of each chapter attending the National Convention may nominate up to two members for a Need-Based Scholarship. Up to fifty will be available. The scholarship will cover the member's registration and reimbursement of up to \$300 for transportation to the National Convention.

**The application deadline is May 15th.**



## GOVERNING COUNCIL DECISIONS FROM THE JULY 2016 MEETING

Mu Alpha Theta is governed by its Governing Council. This elected body currently consists of a president, president-elect, treasurer, four regional governors, and four organizational representatives, as well as an executive director who serves as an ex-officio member. Except for the executive director, the members of the Governing Council are volunteers. They meet in January and July of each year to set the organization's budget, make decisions on how funds will be spent, and regulate policies that affect chapters.

In July of 2016 the following decisions were made:

- Scholarship readers will be provided a \$500 honorarium for their time scoring applications each year.
- Andree Award winners will be provided an additional \$500, when they start teaching.
- Kalin Award finalists must attend the entire National Convention with their chapter in order to be eligible for an interview with the Governing Council.
- The Convention Host and the Convention Test Coordinator honorarium were raised to \$12,000 and \$6,000 respectively.
- The Sister Scholastica Award application deadline is now May 15. Students may submit their sponsors for this award.

## CHAPTER NEWS



Pace Early College High School inducted 19 students in 2016. They invited a guest speaker, Dr. Edward Anthony Marquez, who spoke on how he uses mathematics in Optometry. Pace Early College High School is the first and only school in Brownsville ISD to have a Mu Alpha Theta Chapter. They hope other schools in the district will soon follow.

## FREE! TI CALCULATORS

Mu Alpha Theta is giving away a limited number of TI-84 Plus and TI 89 Titanium calculators. The calculators could be used to give away as a prize at a competition the chapter is running, to a special club member, or to auction off to raise money for your chapter.

The National Office can provide up to three calculators to a chapter!

Chapters with less than 12 members, may receive 1 calculator, if they add new members.

Chapters with 12-23 members may receive 1 calculator.

Chapters with 24-35 members may receive 2 calculators.

Chapters with 36+ members may receive 3 calculators.

**Calculators are limited to chapters who have not received one in the past 4 years.**

Email us at [matheta@ou.edu](mailto:matheta@ou.edu) if your chapter is interested in receiving a calculator!



Mu Alpha Theta is going viral! The National Office can now be found on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Linked In, Youtube and Instagram. Look for us in your social media world and like/tweet/add/subscribe to us! Use **#mualphatheta** and tag us in posts you would like for us to share. To find the National Office, search using the names listed below for each network.

**Facebook:** Mu Alpha Theta- @MATNatlOffice

**Twitter:** Mu Alpha Theta- @MATNatlOffice

**Instagram:** matnatloffice

**Linked In:** Mu Alpha Theta

**Pinterest:** Mu Alpha Theta

**Youtube:** National Mu Alpha Theta

## SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

A number of chapters have established groups, pages, or other accounts on social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, etc. The National Office accepts the fact that these pages exist and even encourages other chapters to follow suit. Chapters that have such accounts are using them to distribute information, have open discussions of mathematical topics, and even promote Mu Alpha Theta on the internet.

Many pages that exist use the Mu Alpha Theta name and logo, but are not necessarily established by one of our chapters. Therefore, the Governing Council would like to suggest the following guidelines for use of social networking sites. These guidelines are designed to help avoid confusion about the origin of Mu Alpha Theta related pages on networking sites and to protect the integrity of the name and copyrighted logo of Mu Alpha Theta.

1. Only an active chapter of Mu Alpha Theta may establish a page or account with a social networking site and use the name "Mu Alpha Theta" or our logo. If your chapter has gone inactive, it is the sponsors' responsibility to remove the Mu Alpha Theta name from all social media accounts connected to that chapter.
2. A chapter's social media account should include the schools' name at the beginning of the title, for example "John Smith High School Mu Alpha Theta." ***Note: If you currently have a page, we ask that you change the title of your page to include the school's name as described above.***
3. Because students graduate and personnel changes, the chapter sponsor or another adult **MUST** be an administrator. If a sponsor change occurs in a chapter, the new sponsor must be added as an administrator when the old sponsor is removed or the page needs to be deleted. This will ensure that a chapter sponsor can review all posted content.
4. All tweets, Instagram photos, and Facebook posts that suggest, mention, or tag the Mu Alpha Theta organization should be in good taste. Please refrain from tagging, posting, or mentioning Mu Alpha Theta in any social media post that would, or could be deemed inappropriate. The use or engagement of ethnic slurs, personal insults or obscenity within a post, in conjunction with Mu Alpha Theta, will be flagged by the National Office.
5. Any disputes of an unfair occurrence, or wrongdoing, should be directed to the page administrator or emailed to the National Office directly. We will investigate the incident and act accordingly.
6. Most importantly, remember that online content is not private!

The National office will contact page administrators wherein the origin of the page is unclear to help enhance the presence of Mu Alpha Theta on the internet. If there is a page, group or account that does not appear to be affiliated with our organization, please contact us with the link to the suspicious page.

# MU ALPHA THETA AWARDS

## 2016 AWARD RECIPIENTS

**Rubin Award:** St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Fort Lauderdale, FL

**Regional Sponsor of the Year Award**

**Region 1** – Janice L. Krouse, Illinois Math & Science Academy in Aurora, IL

**Region 2** – No nominees

**Region 3** – Joseph T. Phillips IV, Warren County Community College in Washington, NJ

**Region 4** – Lisa Winer, Saint Andrew's School in Boca Raton, FL

**There were no nominees for the Sister Scholastica or Huneke Award in 2016.**

### RUBIN AWARD (*For Chapters*)

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 cash award of \$2,500 and a plaque will be presented to the winning chapter. No school may receive the award more than once. **Applications are due March 1st.**

### REGIONAL SPONSOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Mu Alpha Theta established this award to honor outstanding sponsors of Mu Alpha Theta chapters who may not have attended the National Convention. Each year the Regional Sponsor of the Year Award will honor a current sponsor of an active chapter from each region who has labored tirelessly and made significant contributions to Mu Alpha Theta. To be nominated, the individual must have served as a Mu Alpha Theta sponsor for at least five years. They may not currently be a member of the Mu Alpha Theta Governing Council. The award includes a \$1,000 cash award to the winner from each region and a Grant of \$1,000 to the sponsor's chapter. **Applications are due March 15th.**

### 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 and the winner may not currently be a member of the Mu Alpha Theta Governing Council. 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. **UPDATED: Applications are now due May 15th.**

### 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 current or retired 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 15th.**



# Mu Alpha Theta Grants

## CHAPTER GRANTS

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. Some ideas for how to use the grant might include a math-related outing, hosting a math competition, or to provide a speaker honorarium for a mathematician who speaks to your chapter.



West Forsyth's MAT students hosted a 2016 Pi Day! The club dressed up as math superheroes and went around different classrooms at a local elementary school. After their visit, they stopped for pancakes. They did mathematical calculations on the pancakes, they dissected them and of course, ate them. Their meal was paid for using a Mu Alpha Theta Chapter Grant.

*Think of the fun opportunities that are possible with this grant!*

## CLASSROOM TEACHING GRANT

Mu Alpha Theta Educational Foundation offers a limited number of 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, second, or third 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 this grant.

## COMPETITION GRANTS

Mu Alpha Theta is offering Competition Grants of up to **\$500 per active chapter** to help pay entrance fees or expenses associated with a math competition in which the chapter members wish to compete. No chapter will be awarded more than \$500. Funds are available on a first come/first served basis until our budget for these grants is depleted. There is no deadline for the application, but once funds are gone, further grants will not be possible for the remainder of that fiscal year.



St. Cecilia Academy (pictured above) has been able to participate in several math competitions using their Competition Grant.



## THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED:

### **Retired:**

Mill Creek High School, Hoschton, GA: Eric Sever  
Mount Notre Dame High School, Cincinnati, OH: Carolyn Holman  
Sipsey Valley High School, Buhl, AL: Deborah Cameron  
Mobile Christian School, Mobile, AL: Jeannie Aldred, 4 years  
Queen of Peace High School, Burbank, IL: Karla Bailey  
Oak Ridge High School, Oak Ridge, TN: Benita Albert  
Grafton High School, Yorktown, VA: Mark Fowler  
St. George's Independent School, Collierville, TN: Aaron Thompson, 6 years  
Flagler Palm Coast High School, Palm Coast, FL: Leslie Appleman  
Alconbury High School, Huntingdon, England : Amy Heimbürger  
Fort Chiswell High School, Max Meadows, VA: Vicki Shiner  
Vanguard College Prep School, Waco, TX: Dena Johns  
Peninsula Catholic High School, Newport News, VA: Kenneth Aydlott  
Allen D. Nease High School, Ponte Vedra, FL: Margaret Byrns  
Hurricane High School, Hurricane, WV: Louise Goode  
Kingwood Christian School, Alabaster, AL: Dianna Hulon  
West Caldwell High School, Lenoir, NC: Jesse Beane  
Dulaney High School, Timonium, MD: Lynnette Roller  
Pensacola High School, Pensacola, FL: Kimberly Teasley  
Trion High School, Trion, GA: Dean Hollis  
Greer High School, Greer, SC: Pat Piergiovanni  
Blue Valley High School, KS: Richard Gill  
South Aiken High School, Aiken, SC: Jason Rodgers  
West Lincoln High School, Lincolnton, NC: Cynthia Howes, Served: 23 years  
Prentiss Christian Academy, Prentiss, MS: Amanda McKenzie  
Northwest High School, Cedar Hill, MO: Robbie Fischer  
South Panola High School, Batesville MS: Leslie Gammill  
Cosby High School, Midlothian, VA Judy Raviotta  
Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy, Melbourne, FL: Aaron Pishalski  
Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy, Melbourne, FL: Trevor Herntier  
McCook Senior High School, McCook, NE: Cathy Jones  
Sarasota Military Academy, Sarasota, FL: Penny Taddio Schroeder  
Destrehan High School, Destrehan, LA: Kailyn Brabham  
George Walton Comprehensive High School, Marietta, GA: Joseph League  
Greenbrier East High School, Lewisburg, WV: Karen Painter  
Alonso High School, Tampa, FL: David Bland  
Thomas A. Edison High School, Alexandria, VA: Joe Adelman  
Ronald Reagan / Doral Senior High School, Miami, FL: Miguel Acosta, Served 4 years  
The Master's Academy, Oviedo, FL: Nadine Hinds  
Community School of Naples, Naples, FL: Ed Berger, 43 years

## SCHOLARSHIP READERS NEEDED

Starting in 2017, Mu Alpha Theta will issue a \$500 honorarium to retired or other sponsors with at least 7 years of Mu Alpha Theta experience who would like to read scholarship applications. The readers will receive a rubric, along with the scholarship applications around mid-March. **This is a labor of love.** Scholarships will need to be scored by April 20th. Sponsors may not score applications from their own school.

***If you know any retired MAT sponsors, who might be interested, please contact the National Office by December 16th, 2016.***

## CHAPTER VOTE NEEDED FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE!

Please vote on the following two motions to amend our National Constitution.

- 1) The first motion adds the word “age” to our discrimination clause for student members.
- 2) The second motion moves West Virginia to Region 4 from Region 3 and adds Mexico, Central America, and South Asia to Region 2.

Rationale for the changes:

- Our Two-Year College chapters would like age added to prevent a “non-traditional” student from being denied membership in Mu Alpha Theta. The Governing Council concurs.
- We have added a number of chapters to West Virginia and wish to put this state in a region with states geographically close to it.
- We have added chapters in Mexico and Central America and need to assign them to a region. Since countries in South America are in Region 2, this seems the most likely place for these new chapters. While we do not yet have chapters in South Asia, such as India or Pakistan, it seems appropriate to add this to a region in anticipation of this happening.

### **Changes are highlighted:**

#### **MOTION 1:**

Old wording in Article V, (4):

(4) No student shall be recommended for consideration that does not meet the minimum qualifications. Individual chapters may impose additional requirements; however, no student will be denied membership on account of race, religion, color, creed, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual preference, and/or physical disability.

New wording in Article V, (4):

(4) No student shall be recommended for consideration that does not meet the minimum qualifications. Individual chapters may impose additional requirements; however, no student will be denied membership on account of race, religion, color, creed, ethnicity, national origin, **age**, gender, sexual preference, and/or physical disability.

#### **MOTION 2:**

Old wording:

Region 1: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Canada, the Far East, the Pacific Islands, and Western Europe.

Region 2: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, South America and Middle East.

Region 3: Alabama, Connecticut, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, West Virginia, and Eastern Europe.

Region 4: Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, District of Columbia, the Caribbean, Puerto Rico, and Africa.”

***Continued...***

New wording:

Region 1: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Canada, the Far East, the Pacific Islands, and Western Europe.

Region 2: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, **Mexico**, **Central America**, South America, the Middle East, and South Asia.

Region 3: Alabama, Connecticut, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, and Eastern Europe.

Region 4: Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, **West Virginia**, District of Columbia, the Caribbean, Puerto Rico, and Africa.”

Each active chapter of Mu Alpha Theta has one vote. Please send a **FOR** or **AGAINST** vote on each motion, by email, to **matheta@ou.edu** by **October 21st, 2016**. Be sure to include the name of your school, city and state, and your chapter ID number with your vote.

For questions or comments, please email Jennifer Bookwalter at **matheta@ou.edu**.

# STUDENTS

National Student Delegate  
Officers:

**President**

Adrian Perez  
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**Vice President**

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**Secretary/Treasurer**

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**Parliamentarian**

Emily Nguyen  
Region II  
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New Orleans, LA  
emilynguyen2199@gmail.com

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR STUDENT DELEGATE PRESIDENT

Hi there everyone,

My name is Adrian Perez, and I am the 2016-2017 Student Delegate President. I would like to extend my best wishes to all Mu Alpha Theta members. With a fresh start on the school year, I am more than sure that we will all find great experiences to have, gather stories to tell, and have plenty of new friends as we participate in Mu Alpha Theta.

To those who will have their first taste of a competition this year: To be frank, the competition scene can be a little intimidating at first. Do not get me wrong, I absolutely love going to these competitions. Yet, I still vividly remember the terror of competing against so many brilliant people in the same room. So just a friendly word of advice, don't be scared! I promise that the other competitors will not bite and that you will find your moment or place in Mu Alpha Theta.

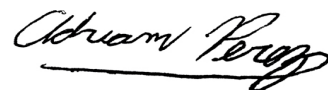
Outside of competitions, there are a lot more opportunities to get involved with the fun of math. Mu Alpha Theta offers several different free contests to take part in. If you are creative and have a knack for teaching, perhaps the Mathematical Minutes Video Contest will be right up your sleeve. Please go to the Mu Alpha Theta website at [mualphatheta.org](http://mualphatheta.org) for more details on this contest as well any others that might strike your fancy.

Following up on the idea of teaching, if you enjoy educating others, there is a fantastic program that Mu Alpha Theta is partnered with called Study Buddy. This program allows you to help those in need of tutoring with the ease of access of the internet. For more information on how you can help others and even be eligible for a \$1,000 Convention Grant, check the Mu Alpha Theta website. Make sure to get out there and help others learn!

I now come to the topic of awards and grants. For those who did not attend the 2015-2016 National Convention, note that there were NO NOMINEES for the Sister Scholastica Award. So this year, let us change that. Please remember to give your sponsors a little recognition because without them we would be nothing. In addition, do not neglect the very prestigious Huneke and Regional Sponsor Awards that your sponsors can be nominated for as well!

If anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at [aero.da.vinci@gmail.com](mailto:aero.da.vinci@gmail.com).

Signing off,



Student Delegate President



## GOVERNORS' LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARD

This award was established in 2015 by the Governors of Mu Alpha Theta to recognize a graduating member for their outstanding leadership skills and exceptional service to their Mu Alpha Theta chapter. In 2016, the winner will receive \$4,000. The winner may choose to receive the \$4,000 as a scholarship to his or her college or as a cash prize.

## 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. Beginning this year, Andree Award winners will receive an additional \$500 award when they begin teaching.

## 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. The winner of the award receives a \$4,000 prize and an additional \$1,000 Chapter Grant will be awarded to their chapter. 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. All other interviewed finalists will receive a \$500 cash prize. ***In order to be considered for the Kalin Award the student and their chapter must attend the entire National Convention.***

**Award applications and all nomination materials must be postmarked no later than March 1st. Applications can be downloaded from [www.mualphatheta.org](http://www.mualphatheta.org)>Awards. Please mail all materials to:**

Mu Alpha Theta  
“...” Award  
c/o University of Oklahoma  
3200 Marshall Ave, Suite 190  
Norman, OK 73019

## 2016 STUDENT AWARD WINNERS

**Governors' Leadership and Service Award:** Agni Kumar from Milton High School in Alpharetta, GA

**High School Andree Award:** Dominick Hing from Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL

**College Andree Award:** Emily Kaiser from University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, AL

Cayley H. Robinson - Will be teaching at Buchholz High School for 2016/2017

**Kalin Award Winner:** Wilbur Li from W. P. Clements High School in Sugar Land, TX

**Kalin Award Finalists: Interviewed, in person, at the 2016 National Convention**

Zhaoyuan Li from Buchholz High School in Gainesville, FL

Ashhab Thakur from Fort Myers Senior High School in Fort Myers, FL

Christine Jou from Klein High School in Klein, TX

Sunny Tian from Westwood High School in Austin, TX

## SUMMER GRANTS

Mu Alpha Theta is offering Summer Math Program/Research Grants to Mu Alpha Theta members. To be considered for the grant, the member's chapter must have been active during the previous twelve months. (This means that the school would not have reactivated or chartered in the twelve months prior to the application.) Grants may be requested for up to \$2,000 per student, if the student has been a member since, at least, the semester prior to the application. A member may apply more than once, but will be awarded no more than \$4,000 in total.

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, and the Mathematica Camp. Other programs will also be considered.

## CONTESTS & COMPETITIONS

### ROCKET CITY MATH LEAGUE

The RCML is a free, international math contest open to all middle, high school, and two-year college students enrolled in Pre-Algebra through Calculus or above math courses.

It is administered by the students at Grissom High School in Huntsville, AL and supported by a grant from Mu Alpha Theta.

Participants are placed into one of five divisions based on the level of math courses in which they are enrolled. Each division will be given three, 10 question tests lasting 45 minutes. A two-level, interschool team test is also available. Tests are sent to registered schools via email before each round, and scores are entered into an online database. Trophies are mailed to the top-ranked students and schools at the end of the year. Mu Alpha Theta also provides other prizes as well.

#### 2016-2017 Testing Dates:

Interschool Test: November 7-25, 2016

Round One: January 9-27, 2017

Round Two: February 6-24, 2017

Round Three: March 6-24, 2017

Register at [www.rocketcitymath.org](http://www.rocketcitymath.org). For more info, visit <http://www.mualphatheta.org/index.php?contests/rcml-contest>.

### LOG1 CONTEST

The Log1 Contest provides an excellent opportunity for a school to participate in a competition similar to our national convention contests and compete against schools from across the country and the world, while staying right at their home school.

The Log 1 contest is free, but participation is restricted to schools with active Mu Alpha Theta chapters. Sponsors are responsible for entering the names of their eligible members and associates by Feb 15, 2017, if they want students to win prizes.

#### 2016-2017 Testing Dates:

Round 1: November 1 - December 16, 2016

Round 2: December 1, 2016 - January 16, 2017

Round 3: January 16 - February 17, 2017

Mu Alpha Theta awards 100 e = \$271. 83 to each of the top ten schools in each region

### ARML POWER CONTEST

The American Regions Mathematics League (ARML) offers a two test Power Contest to be worked on by a team at the students' high school. The Power Contest provides a group problem solving situation similar to the power question found at ARML Competitions.

The mathematics level of the contest problems has been geared so that students in an honors class, in a math club, or on a math team can have a unique problem solving and mathematical writing experience. There is no limit to the size of the team working on each Power Contest problem set, but the time for solving the problem set is limited to 45 minutes. Coaches will receive the contest materials at least one week prior to contest dates and may schedule the contest anytime during the designated week and a half. After completing the contest, student solutions are then mailed back and are graded using a forty point rubric. Trophies are awarded to the top ten scoring teams. The cost is \$50 per school.

#### 2016-2017 Testing Dates:

October 29 – November 13, 2016

February 25 – March 12, 2017

Questions: contact Micah Fogel  
at [fogel@imsa.edu](mailto:fogel@imsa.edu).

Website: <http://staff.imsa.edu/~fogel/ARMLPower/>

20-30 ARML  
teams in China will  
participate in the  
Power Contest this  
year!

ARML and Mu Alpha Theta will provide free registration for eight chapters to compete in this contest. Email [matheta@ou.edu](mailto:matheta@ou.edu) to be one of the eight. Serious inquiries only. These are awarded on a first come first serve basis.

### AMC

#### 2016-2017 Testing Dates:

AMC 8: November 15, 2016

AMC 10A/ AMC 12A: February 7, 2017

AMC 10B /AMC 12B: February 15, 2017

AIME I: March 7, 2017

AIME II (Alternate): March 22, 2017

USAMO: April 19 - 20, 2017

For registration  
deadlines, please  
go to <http://www.maa.org/math-competitions/about-amc/events-calendar>

## SIGN UP FOR THE STUDY BUDDY TUTORING PROGRAM THIS YEAR!



StudyBuddy

Study Buddy is a national online peer-to-peer volunteer tutoring program designed to address low math and science scores of under performing middle and high school students. This homework assistance program utilizes online collaborative technology to bring students from different locations across the country together for online math, physics and chemistry homework help.

Study Buddy relies solely on volunteers like you to help struggling students.

Study Buddy is excited to start another year of partnership with Mu Alpha Theta. Over the years, Mu Alpha Theta members have provided free online math homework help to over 20,000 students, and this year we expect to reach many more! Mu Alpha Theta members that tutored last year have already been contacted about continuing as tutors. New tutors are welcome at <http://www.studybuddyhelp.org/study-buddy/> to register at any time. When a tutor registers from a previously unregistered school, a Teacher/Sponsor email is required. We confirm that teacher's status with the school and provide a code so that other registrants associated with that school/teacher can register more quickly.

Here is why Mu Alpha Theta chapters love volunteering through Study Buddy:

**Convenience** – Volunteering from your computer after school or at home, in the evening and/or on the weekend, the ability to schedule yourself in half hour segments and having the flexibility to choose when you wish to help makes Study Buddy an easy volunteer option. This year we are encouraging tutors to use “Scheduled Tutoring”. (Tutors with smart phones will be able to receive a request for tutoring at a specific time, and confirm the appointment directly with the student. Tutoring still takes place within the tutor's book. The scheduling calendar is also accessible on tablets.)

**Make a real impact outside of your own school** – Mu Alpha Theta students will be paired with students who are struggling and may not otherwise have access to a tutor due to economic and/or geographic reasons. Student tutors commit to tutoring one hour per month. Participation will be tracked by software and will serve as community service credit hours. A unique tutor log book tracks each tutor's community service hours and saves each tutoring session automatically. Tutors have the ability to view an online summary of their volunteer community service hours at any time.

**Teachers** – We encourage you to enroll your Mu Alpha Theta members in Study Buddy! Detailed reports of your tutors' activity will be emailed to you once a month, no later than the 15th of the month, and enable you to monitor your students' participation in the program and award community service hours at your discretion. (This year we are suggesting that Lobby Time count at no more than twice the actual tutoring time for any tutor.) As a way of thanking your school for participating, we will make Study Buddy free online tutoring available to your school's entire student population. That means that by signing up your chapter to volunteer, your entire school can benefit from free Study Buddy online tutoring! Our staff is here to help you register the students at your school for tutoring as quickly and seamlessly as possible. And we encourage schools to create a “Same-School” tutoring option for their students. (Students would have the benefit of choosing tutors who attend their school and who have had the same teachers or used the same curriculum as those that need help.)

Study Buddy is proud to announce that NSTEP will provide a \$1,000 Convention Grant to one Mu Alpha Theta chapter that participates in tutoring this year.

Please email Patty Christian [pchristian@studybuddyhelp.org](mailto:pchristian@studybuddyhelp.org) if you need any other information. Hope you will sign up with Study Buddy soon!