

Fall 2016

Chi Alpha Mu Newsletter

News From the President

Summer is over and a new school year has begun! It's time for making new friends, learning new math concepts, preparing for school math nights, and participating in exciting math competitions.

I am excited about the growth of Chi Alpha Mu chapters over the past few years. It's never too early to get students excited about the beauty of mathematics and the wide variety of applications that it has.

Please take a few moments to look over the Chi Alpha Mu website and the Mu Alpha Theta website. These sites contain a wealth of information that you will find helpful when planning your new school year -- information on free contests, chapter activities, merchandise, and chapter and convention grants, just to name a few. You can also find schools in your area that have chapters and perhaps you can exchange ideas for club activities or combine forces for a new activity. If you are looking for some money to participate in a competition or to put on an activity, chapter grants of up to \$250 are available. Many ideas for using a chapter grant can also be found on the website – pi days, math nights, guest speakers, field trips, etc. Students enjoy using mathematics to make ornaments for a Math Tree during the holiday season and there are always the “pumpkin PI” riddles to share.

So, sponsors, round up your mathletes and plan some inspiring activities for your Chi Alpha Mu club this year!

Happy calculating!



Social Media Reminders:

A chapter's social media account should include the school's name at the beginning of the title, for example “Smith Middle School Chi Alpha Mu”.

It is critical to get permission from a teacher or other approved adult before creating a social media account for your chapter. There must be an administrative oversight of any site using our name.

Most importantly, remember that online content is not private!

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From the National Office

We hope you're enjoying your time back at school so far. As you gear up for another exciting year of mathematics, we hope you are becoming more involved with your Chi Alpha Mu chapter. Please check out our new & improved website for fun event ideas, Chi Alpha Mu merchandise, and grant applications for chapter event and summer camp support. We would love to help you host a Pi Day at your school or help a student attend MathPath next summer.

We are also searching for a Chi Alpha Mu coordinator (job listing below), so if you are even the slightest bit interested, please call or email us. Best of luck this fall!

Questions? Comments? We are always available for you. Email us at info@chialphamu.com or call us at 405-325-4489.

Currently Seeking Chi Alpha Mu Coordinator

Do you love steering students on a path towards excelling in and having fun with mathematics? Do you love spreading the word about Chi Alpha Mu to middle school students and teachers?

Chi Alpha Mu is looking for you!

The Chi Alpha Mu coordinator will help write and edit the newsletter twice a year, come up with ideas to promote math to Chi chapters, provide assistance to existing chapters, and promote membership with new schools. The coordinator may also assist with approving chapter grants for Chi Alpha Mu.

In return, Chi Alpha Mu will provide \$500 to the coordinator's club for services rendered. The position has a one-year renewable term. The coordinator's club will be sent \$250 in March 2017, after the spring newsletter is published and the other \$250 will be sent in October 2017, after the fall newsletter is published. The coordinator application is available online and at the end of this newsletter.

Free TI-84 Plus Calculators!

The National Office has TI-84 Plus calculators to give away to our Chi chapters. Calculators are given on a first come first serve basis and each chapter may receive only one. Email the National Office at info@chialphamu.com to request your FREE calculator.

CHAPTERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED A CALCULATOR IN THE PAST FOUR YEARS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE.



Chapter Highlight



CIMARRON MIDDLE SCHOOL

In September 2016, Cimarron Middle School Chi Alpha Mu students participated in a math competition against five other schools. One Cimarron seventh grade member took fourth place in the individual rounds. **Impressive!**

Cimarron Middle School is currently planning its family math night event which will be possible thanks to a Chi Alpha Mu chapter grant. Find out below about our grants!

CHI ALPHA MU GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

CHAPTER GRANTS

Chi chapters looking for support may submit a grant proposal requesting up to \$250 to fund their chapter activities. Funds may be used to purchase supplies for a math activity or for math games, workbooks, or software. They may also be used for transportation to and from a math activity or to provide support to bring in an invited speaker.

SUMMER GRANTS

Chi Alpha Mu can provide summer grants of up to \$500 to support middle school students who will attend a summer math program. Middle school members may request grants through the summer after eighth grade graduation. Grant money may be used to pay tuition or fees.

COMPETITION GRANTS

Competition grants will provide up to \$250 to help a Chi Alpha Mu chapter to compete in an away math competition or at their school. Funds may be used for entrance fees, transportation, or other needed expenses.

Grant funding is limited, but please apply! We want to support activities for your members. Refer to the website for eligibility, requirements, and limitations on the above grants.

New Chi Alpha Mu Chapters!

Jesuit High School: New Orleans, LA

Colmer Middle School: Pascagoula, MS

Maxine Smith STEAM Academy: Memphis, TN

Edison Middle School: Wheaton, IL

Gautier Middle School: Gautier, MS

Texas School of Arts: Edgecliff Village, TX

Key Largo School: Key Largo, FL

Whitten Preparatory Middle School: Jackson, MS

Coleman Middle School: Tampa, FL

iMater Academy Middle/High School: Hialeah, FL

Harmony School of Business - Dallas: Dallas, TX

Fairfield Christian Academy: Lancaster, OH

North Harford Middle School: Pylesville, MD

Gilbert Classical Academy: Gilbert, AZ

Cimarron Middle School: Parker, CO

Rucker Stewart Middle School: Gallatin, TN

Perry Hall Middle School: Baltimore, MD

Cummings School: Memphis, TN

Lindale Middle School: Linthicum, MD

Somerset Academy Middle School: Pembroke Pines, FL

The Cushman School: Miami, FL

Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy: Cincinnati, OH

Williams Middle Magnet School: Tampa, FL

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Opportunities for Students and Teachers

HONEYWELL HOMETOWN SOLUTIONS (HHS)

Honeywell Educators @ Space Academy (HESA), is a week-long, high-energy learning program for middle school science and math teachers. Hosted by the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, HESA is designed to inspire teachers to develop a new generation of scientists in their classroom. Teachers learn new teaching practices in STEM education by participating in a series of astronaut-style exercises and simulations, build and test their own rockets, meet veteran astronauts and so much more. Since 2004, more than 2000 HESA alumni from 56 countries, have reached more than 2 million students, inspiring many to pursue STEM education and careers.



Applications for 2017 will be available online.

Scholarship includes: Tuition for the five-day program, round-trip airfare, meals, accommodation and program materials.

Go to <https://educators.honeywell.com/application> to apply.

RAYTHEON'S MATH MOVES U

Raytheon's MathMovesU is an innovative program designed to engage middle school students with math, to include algebra, geometry, decimals, fractions and word problems. MathMovesU.com can be used to supplement your classroom curriculum. There are also a variety of resources such as classroom ideas, partnerships, games and scholarships.



MATH MOVES U SCHOLARSHIPS



Do you have a 6th, 7th or 8th grade student interested in competing for a \$1,000 scholarship to either save for college or to use for a summer institute or camp?

Watch for the MathMovesU scholarship. Entries will be due in February 2017.

A matching grant is awarded to the math program of the student awardee's school. This past year, the prompt was "Math is in the world all around us. Morning, noon, and night – how does math move you or the world around you?"

MATH HERO GRANTS

Nominate a Math Hero. Math teachers and volunteers who work with students are eligible to receive a \$2,500 Math Hero Award which is accompanied by a matching \$2,500 grant to their school or approved math-related nonprofit organization of their choice. This is awarded to individuals once per career.



All of the above can be found at <http://www.mathmovesu.com/>.

competitions

ROCKET CITY MATH LEAGUE

The Rocket City Math League is a free, international, math contest that is open to all middle, high school, and two-year college students enrolled in Pre-Algebra through Precalculus and above math courses. This competition is completely FREE due to a generous grant from Mu Alpha Theta.

If your chapter has not participated in this competition before, we highly recommend that you do. Visit <http://www.rocketcitymath.org/>.

AMERICAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITIONS

Dedicated to strengthening the mathematical capabilities of our nation's youth, the AMC program identifies, recognizes, and rewards excellence in mathematics through a series of national contests. The American Mathematics Competitions (AMC) are math competitions run by MAA. The AMC 8 Contest is for students in the sixth, seventh, or eighth grades (as well as accelerated fourth or fifth graders). See the "Give Aways" page for information about preparation materials.



OTHER NATIONAL MATH CONTESTS AND STATE COMPETITIONS CAN BE FOUND AT:



MATHCOUNTS: Mathcounts offers a national team competition in May each year. We can assist you in contacting your local high school Mu Alpha Theta chapter to find coaches or team mentors to help your school compete. Go to mathcounts.org for details. **Registration is open.**



PURPLE COMET! MATH MEET: This is an annual, free, online, international, team mathematics competition for middle and high school students. Team registration will begin February 1, 2017.



NATIONAL STEM VIDEO GAME CHALLENGE: A free youth video game making competition for students in grades 5-12 to promote skills related to STEM.



TOSHIBA/NSTA EXPLORAVISION: This is a competition for students from all grade levels. The students must pick a technology and predict what it will be like in the future and what discoveries will need to be made in order for the changes to be realized. Groups of two, three or four will describe their research in both a written description and five simulated web page graphics.

Please visit the Activities and Special links page on our website!

Chi Alpha Mu
Chi Coordinator
APPLICATION FORM

Chi Alpha Mu Coordinator: This person will help write and edit the newsletter twice a year, come up with ideas to promote math to Chi chapters, provide assistance to existing chapters and promote membership with new schools. The coordinator may also help approve Chi Alpha Mu chapter grants. In return, Chi Alpha Mu will provide \$500 to the Coordinator's club for services rendered. The position has a one-year renewable term. \$250 will be sent to the club in March 2017, after the spring newsletter is published, and the other \$250 will be sent in October 2017, after the fall newsletter is published.

You may have your members help with items in the newsletter. The National Office will provide information and articles as needed to assist the Chi coordinator. Also, the National Office will do the final edit before the newsletter is published.

Your Name: _____

Name of School: _____

School Address: _____

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Your Email: _____

Number of years you have taught math at the middle school level? _____

How long have you helped run a math club? _____

How many hours per month would you be able to spend on Chi business? _____

Please provide details on why you would like to be the Chi coordinator and what your plans are for coordinating and managing Chi. Please also describe experience that will help you successfully fulfill the required duties listed above. Include any design or publishing work previously done, if applicable.

Attach additional pages as necessary.