

Report on the 2019 Mu Alpha Theta Convention

Submitted by

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Mu Alpha Theta, the National High School and Two-Year College Mathematics Honor Society, was formed in 1957 at the University of Oklahoma. We are dedicated to inspiring a keen interest in mathematics, developing strong scholarship in the subject, and promoting the enjoyment of mathematics in high school and two-year college students. Currently, more than 124,000 students are Mu Alpha Theta members at more than 2,633 schools in the United States and in 23 foreign countries.¹

Mu Alpha Theta:

- Provides a method for schools to recognize and encourage students who enjoy and excel in mathematics.
- Organizes a national convention for students and teachers to participate in math-related events and interact with others from across the country.
- Rewards outstanding extracurricular achievement by offering special awards, scholarships, and grants to students and their faculty advisers.
- Provides mathematics competitions to participating members at their own school through the [Log1 Contest](#), [Rocket City Math League](#) and the [Mathematical Minutes Video Contest](#).

The 2019 national convention was held in Las Vegas, Nevada. Four members of the FSCJ chapter of Mu Alpha Theta participated: Brandy Kuhnenn (Chapter President), Lindsey Alexander, Brittany Purscell and Michael Woolridge. The activities run by the convention committee included Individual Testing, Chalk Talk and a variety of special topics test encompassing multiple levels. Among the topics tested (at multiple levels) included Logs & Exponents, Sequences & Series, Matrices & Vectors, Equations & Inequalities, Circles, Combination & Probability and Area & Volume. Tests in each topic area were formulated according to three levels:

Level	Mathematical Knowledge through
Mu	Calculus and Above
Alpha	Precalculus and Trigonometry
Theta	College Algebra

¹Mu Alpha Theta website <https://mualphatheta.org>

Competitions were scheduled each day from 6:30 a.m. until 11:30 p.m. as a series of three topics rounds:

Round One	Round Two	Round Three
Theta – Triangles	Theta – Applications	Theta – Conics & Analytic Geom.
Theta – Circles	Theta – Combinations & Probability	Theta – Logs & Exponents
Theta – Area & Volume	Theta – Equations & Inequalities	Theta – Sequences & Series
Alpha – Trigonometry	Alpha – Applications	Alpha – Sequences & Series
Alpha – Matrices & Vectors	Alpha – Equations & Inequalities	Alpha – Logs & Exponents
Alpha – Analytic Geometry	Alpha – Combinations & Probability	Alpha – Complex Numbers
Mu – Limits & Derivatives	Mu – Applications	Mu – Areas & Volumes
Mu – BC Calculus	Mu – Integration	Mu – Sequences & Series
Mu – Differential Equations	Mu – Combinatorics & Probability	Mu – Comprehensive
Open – History of Math	Open – Math in Economics	Open – Number Theory

In addition, there were school bowls, ciphering, Gemini, Interschool Test and Chalk Talks. Ms. Brittany Purscell did a Chalk Talk on *Math and Energy* and Ms. Brandy Kuhnenn presented a Chalk Talk on *Math and Gambling*.

Alternative competitions at Nationals usually include awards for scrapbooks and a poster competition. Only the poster competition was held this year with the theme: *Cirque du Mathematique – Vegas Style*. There were **37** entries in the poster competition. On our FSCJ team's very first participation in a Mu Alpha Theta poster competition, they placed **ninth**. I am very proud of them. This is the poster our team entered and the trophy received:



In addition to the competitive activities, everyone at the convention were entertained at Cirque du Soleil 's "Beatle Love."



Even though the temperatures ranged from 102^o to 110^o, everyone was invigorated by the healthy competition. Next year's competition will be in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and the following year in Washington DC.

Students interested in becoming a member or instructors volunteering to assist in preparation of students for next year's competition, please contact me at ssweetse@fscj.edu or **904.766.6676**

Respectfully Submitted,

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