If you ask most TIME 2000 alumni, “Who is your math crush?” it is highly likely that they will respond, “Jim Matthews, of course!” Who is Jim Matthews, you may ask? TIME 2000 is very fortunate and pleased to announce that Jim Matthews will serve as this year’s keynote Speaker at the 18th Annual TIME 2000 event, Celebrating Mathematics Teaching, on November 1 at Queens College. He is a professor of mathematics and computer science at Siena College, which is one of his many roles in the mathematics education community. He holds a B.S. in mathematics, an M.A. in mathematics, and an M.S. in computer science. He has taught mathematics and/or computer science at several colleges as well as at the secondary school level for over 40 years. Jim Matthews has received several awards, including the Siena College Teaching Award in 1996, and was inducted into the New York State Mathematics Educators Hall of Fame in 2008. He has given presentations at more than 275 conferences, including locally at LIMAÇON (Long Island Mathematics Conference) at SUNY Old Westbury and the How to Make Math Count conference at Molloy College.

I have been fortunate to hear Jim speak at both LIMAÇON and the How to Make Math Count conference. He is one of my favorite speakers ever. He makes mathematics come alive. He has even dressed up as a leprechaun for one of his mathematics presentations at LIMAÇON. He always goes above and beyond to show his passion and excitement for learning and teaching mathematics. I recently had the privilege of viewing Jim about his experiences with mathematics and teaching:

Q: In what way are you involved in preparing pre-service math teachers who are studying at Siena College? Would you like to share some of your most memorable experiences with pre-service teachers?

A: There are too many to share. I will say that I’ve had more good fortune teaching than I ever thought possible. There is definitely a special place in my heart for all of my students who have gone on to become teachers.

Q: Why do you think it is important for high school students to develop a greater interest in learning mathematics?

A: There are five reasons to learn mathematics:

1. Mathematics is useful.
2. Mathematics develops our ability to think logically.
3. Mathematics helps us understand the world and universe we live in.
4. Mathematics is crucial for knowledgeable participation in a democracy.
5. Mathematics is beautiful.

If a student goes through 10 or more years of math classes and does not experience the beauty of the subject, this is as sad as a person never hearing a beautiful piece of music.

(Continued on page 2)
**TIME 2000 Students Witness History**

Having trouble factoring? Can't remember the Quadratic Formula? Then learn the Loh Method which can make it easier to solve a quadratic equation!

One of the advantages of being a member of the TIME 2000 program is the enrichment opportunities provided at monthly seminars. The guest speaker at the October 15, 2019 seminar was Dr. Po-Shen Loh of Carnegie Mellon University. Dr. Loh was excited to share his new approach for solving quadratic equations, now referred to as the Loh Method. As it turns out, his Quadratic Formula proof was published the same day as his visit to TIME 2000. If it withstands peer review, then the TIME 2000 students will have witnessed a historical moment: the first presentation of the Loh Method in an academic setting.

**Q:** Any advice for current TIME 2000 students and pre-service mathematics teachers?

**A:** See the previous two answers and make sure that happens in your classroom. Most of all, make sure your classroom becomes a problem-solving center.

**By: Melissa Amster (T-20)**

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**TIME for Fun!**

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**Thanksgiving Riddle Corner**

1. What key won’t open any door?
2. What kind of music did the Pilgrims like?
3. What is a scarecrow’s favorite fruit?
4. What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter?
5. Where should you go if you are cold on Thanksgiving?
6. What do math teachers do on Thanksgiving?

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**Answers:**

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**Happy Thanksgiving!**