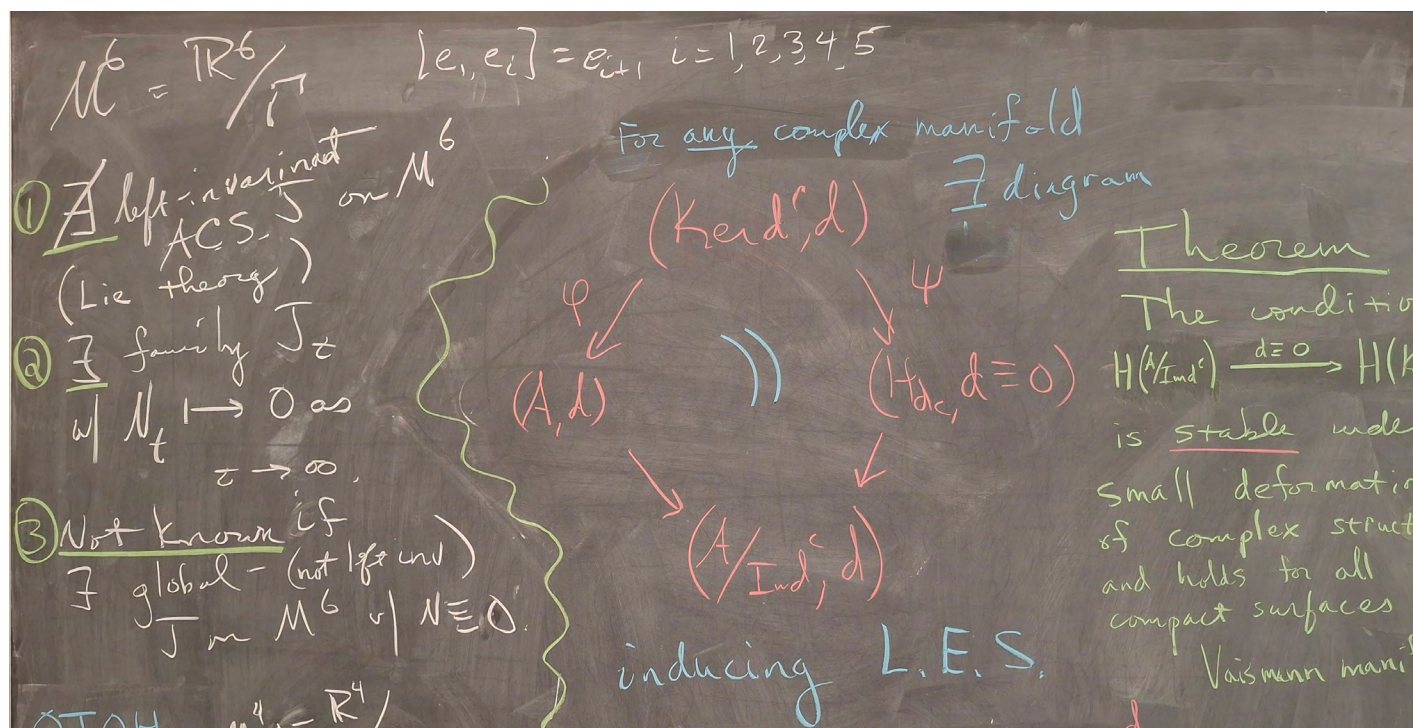


QUEENS MATH BULLETIN

QUEENS COLLEGE • DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS • SUMMER 2026



A Message from the Chair

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this edition of the Department of Mathematics newsletter. Over the past year, our department has continued to thrive through mathematics—educating students, connecting people, and advancing knowledge in ways that reflect both our mission and our shared commitment to excellence. From innovative research and distinguished faculty achievements to vibrant student engagement and community outreach, this newsletter highlights the many ways our department contributes to the intellectual life of Queens College and beyond. As I complete my first year as chair, I am grateful for the dedication, creativity, and collaboration of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Together, we have strengthened our programs, expanded opportunities for research and learning, and built meaningful connections within and beyond our campus. I look forward to the next three years as chair as we continue to grow and innovate as a department.

I invite you to explore the stories in this issue and to stay connected with us. Our alumni play an essential role in our community, and we welcome your continued involvement—whether through mentorship, collaboration, or support of our initiatives. Thank you for being part of the vibrant and evolving community that defines the Department of Mathematics at Queens College.

Sincerely,
Professor Scott Wilson

Make a Donation

To make a donation, please send a check (designated to the Department of Mathematics) to

Queens College Foundation
Kiely Hall, 9th Floor
65-30 Kissena Blvd.
Queens, NY 11367-1597

OR call 718-997-3920

OR visit our website at
<https://qccommunity.qc.cuny.edu/math>

Educating students Connecting people Advancing knowledge } Thriving through Mathematics

Mission

The Department recently adopted a new mission statement:

The mission of the Queens College Department of Mathematics is to educate students, connect people, and advance knowledge in mathematics. Our department fosters thriving through mathematics.

About Our Department

The mathematics faculty is composed of extraordinarily talented educators and researchers who take great pride in their work. We aim to recognize and nurture our students' diverse potential, providing opportunities to excel through the pursuit of mathematics. Through premier research, high-impact publications, and broad dissemination of knowledge, we position Queens College at the forefront of mathematical advancement.

We engage both undergraduate and graduate students through rigorous, in-person courses of study that develop critical thinkers prepared for lifelong success. Within this scholarly environment, we immerse students in learning and knowledge creation, offering activities that broaden their perspectives while providing the tangible skills necessary to thrive.

Development Spotlight

Donor Support Refreshes Zippin Lounge

Donor support facilitated the renovation of Zippin Lounge with new furniture, chalkboards, and mathematical art. This is now a central meeting place for students and faculty.



The newly renovated Leo Zippin Mathematics Common Room, Kiely Hall, Room 508.

Support the Renovation of the Math Tutoring Facility

The Math Department is planning to renovate the Math Tutoring Facility to better support students and encourage collaboration. This updated space will provide an improved environment for academic support, peer tutoring, and student success.

We're inviting the community to support the project and help us build a more modern, welcoming place for learning.

To contribute, please call 718-997-3920 OR visit our website at <https://qccommunity.qc.cuny.edu/math>

Faculty Support and Development

The department supports faculty excellence in teaching, research, and professional engagement. Through Summer Incentive funding and PSC-CUNY grants, faculty can pursue opportunities like presenting research, attending conferences, and participating in teaching workshops. These resources help strengthen our academic community and keep faculty engaged with current developments in math education and research.

Faculty Spotlight



Professor **Dragomir Šarić** was selected as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) in Princeton, NJ, for the academic year 2026–27.

Upon his selection to IAS membership, Professor Šarić received a large National Science Foundation (NSF) grant through the Partnership for Research and Innovation in Mathematical Sciences (PRIMES) program for 2026–28. Thanks to the generous support of NSF and IAS, Šarić is spending 100 percent of his time at IAS in the 2026–27 academic year, including the summer months. He is an active participant and speaker at the Groups and Dynamics seminar and the Analysis and Mathematical Physics seminar at IAS. He is engaging in active discussions with permanent faculty and members at IAS.

In joint work with Charles Bordenave (IAS member and the University of Toulouse) and Xinlong Dong (Kingsborough, CUNY), he established a remarkably simple characterization of when a generic geodesic on a (complicated) Riemann surface returns to a compact part infinitely often (Brownian motion is recurrent). They then showed that Kanai's result that rough isometries

preserve recurrence is false when the injectivity radius is zero. Šarić will return to Queens College in Fall 2026, where he plans to continue his activities and use the established connections with IAS to promote partnerships between the institutions and research opportunities for students and faculty.



Professor **Russell Miller** continues his NSF- and Simons-funded research in mathematical logic, with a focus on computability in infinite algebraic field

extensions. In 2025–26, he participated in invited research programs at leading institutes in Vienna, Bonn, and Pasadena and delivered invited talks at conferences and universities in the United States, Germany, and Colombia. He also continues to serve as secretary-treasurer of the Association for Symbolic Logic and as principal investigator for NSF conference grants supporting the logic research community.

Departmental Talks and Events

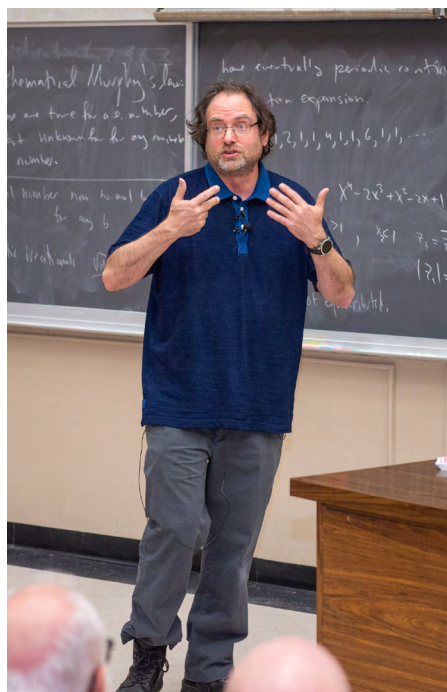
The Mathematical Discovery Series Talks

The Queens College Mathematical Discovery Series, now in its fourth year, is a department initiative that introduces students to exciting areas of modern mathematical research. Through talks by world-leading mathematicians, students have the opportunity to hear about new ideas and discoveries in mathematics in a way that is engaging and accessible to undergraduates. This year we were honored to have two amazing speakers!



Lauren Williams, professor at Harvard and 2025 MacArthur Fellow, spoke about “Triangulations and Physics.” Her engaging talk explained how the

combinatorics of triangles and the so-called “positive Grassmannian” led her to an understanding of the differential equations that describe shallow-water waves that one witnesses at the beach.



Our second speaker, Professor **Elon Lindenstrauss** (IAS, 2010 Fields Medalist) is an expert in ergodic theory and dynamical systems. He explained a wide of array of interesting and difficult problems that arise in number theory as one considers “multiplication modulo 1,” including Furstenberg’s open conjecture, which formalizes whether “multiplication by 2 and 3 are really different.”

These talks captivated large audiences who enjoyed some pizza and drinks while hearing the groundbreaking work and problems at the forefront of research.

Workshop Celebrating Maryam Mirzakhani

The workshop was organized in celebration of the birthday of Maryam Mirzakhani, the first woman to receive the Fields Medal, the highest honor in mathematics awarded to mathematicians under the age of 40. Held in May to honor her legacy, the event featured accessible and engaging talks and activities for students at all levels, including presentations by visiting speakers from the University of Chicago, Queens College, and James Madison University on topics ranging from Mirzakhani’s mathematical work and confidence-building in mathematics to hands-on creation of mathematical patterns using free software tools.

One of the highlights of the workshop was a panel of women at different career stages who discussed research, teaching, mentorship, work-life balance, and personal growth, followed by audience questions. The program also included an interactive session where participants shared personal experiences with mathematics, reinforcing the idea that mathematics offers many different paths and can be both creative and enjoyable.



From left to right: Maria Sabitova, Samantha Javis, Arshiya Farhath Gulam Dasthagir, Tina Torkaman, Fern Sisser, Sharon Erlbaum

Colloquium Talks

This year's math colloquium featured a wide variety of talks that showed how mathematics connects to science, technology, art, and everyday problem-solving. These colloquia brought together students and faculty to engage with current research developments and explore diverse areas of the field. The series highlighted not only the power of mathematics in research and technology, but also its beauty, creativity, and relevance beyond the classroom. These talks were made possible in part through the support of the Gorenstein Visitors Program.

Hosting Math Competition

On May 29, the Department of Mathematics hosted its 20th Annual Queens College Mathematics Competition, continuing a tradition that began in 2001 to strengthen connections between Queens College and the STEM community across Queens. This year, ten local high schools participated in a day of individual and team competitions that celebrated mathematical talent, problem-solving, and collaboration. Sydney Liu of Townsend Harris High School earned first place in the individual competition. Congratulations, Sydney!



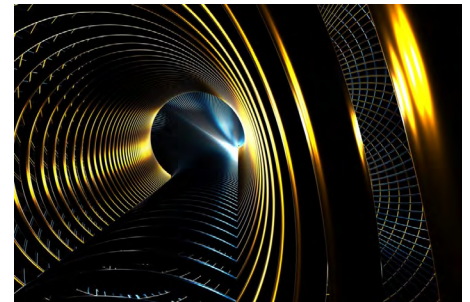
Coaches of the Winning Teams in the Math Competition with the Event Organizer Elliot Gangaram

Department Update: Art, AI, SIAM, and Social Media



Making Mathematics Visible in Local Schools

The Department of Mathematics is taking the (art) show on the road. Curated in Fall 2024 by Professor **Christopher Hanusa** and a fixture in our multimedia space known as the MATRIX, the [Mathematical Art Digital Exhibition \(MADE@QC\)](#) features the artwork of dozens of international mathematical artists. In Spring 2026, our department has started making this exhibition available to high schools in and around Queens through an investment in digital displays and by building connections with high school principals and faculty. Interested high schools can display the MADE@QC exhibition to inspire, inform, and engage students mathematically.



"Reality and Imagination" by Elke Stangl, from the Mathematical Art Digital Exhibition at Queens College

Our goal is to make mathematics more visible and accessible and promote the types of mathematics that are taught at the college level and beyond. View the online exhibition for yourself at math.qc.cuny.edu/made. If you are interested in having this exhibition at your local school, please reach out to our chair, Scott Wilson.

SIAM Student Chapter

The QC SIAM (Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics) Student Chapter hosted a variety of events this year, including Pi Day celebrations, LaTeX workshops, and interactive sessions on reading research papers. One of the year's highlights was a "Career Exploration and Data Science" talk by Jean Steiner, a data scientist at Google, presented through the SIAM Visiting Lecturer Program. Students learned about her journey from academic mathematics to the tech industry and gained insight into careers in data science and analytics. Through these events, the chapter continued to create opportunities for students to learn, collaborate, and explore new ideas beyond the classroom.



From left to right: Monika Von Cyga, Mark Galeana, Jean Steiner, Kritika Palli

AI Forum

Our department proudly participated in the Math and Natural Sciences AI Forum, joining faculty, students, and researchers in discussions about the growing impact of artificial intelligence across mathematics and the natural sciences. The workshops emphasized grounding AI use in fundamental concepts while supporting student learning and engagement.

Social Media

Our department has launched an Instagram account to share news, events, and highlights. Follow us to stay updated on what's happening in the department!



Alumni Spotlight



Xinlong Dong ('14) earned his PhD in Mathematics from the CUNY Graduate Center in 2021. His research focuses on complex analysis,

Teichmüller theory, and geometric analysis, and his recent work has appeared in several mathematics journals, including publications with collaborators Hrant Hakobyan and our faculty members Dragomir Šarić and Sudeb Mitra.

Xinlong has continued to present his work at conferences and seminars, including the Topology Seminar at Fudan University SCMS (2026), the Complex Analysis and Dynamics Seminar at the CUNY Graduate Center (2025), and an American Mathematical Society (AMS) Special Session at the AMS Eastern Sectional Meeting at the University of Connecticut (2025).

Moshe Dinowitz (now known as Emma Dinowitz), was a mathematics major at QC before transferring to the Graduate Center in 2019 to pursue doctoral studies, defended her dissertation recently at the Graduate Center on a project connecting computability theory with dynamical systems and will receive her PhD shortly. Her advisor was Tamara Kucherenko. Emma is also an invited speaker at the "Computability and Complexity in Analysis" meeting in Trier, Germany this July, and will be applying for postdoctoral positions this coming fall.

Faculty Activities

Retirement

Summer 2026

Kenneth Kramer

Fall 2025

Ronald Rothenberg

Stefan Ralescu

Martin Braun

Spring 2025

Henya Spitz

Sabbaticals and Research Leave

2025–2026

■ **Dragomir Šarić** was supported by a research grant during the 2025–26 academic year.

■ **Yongwu Rong, Russell Miller, and Krzysztof Klosin** were on leave during the 2025–26 academic year.

2026–2027

■ **Adam Kapelner and Christopher Hanusa** will be on leave during Fall 2026 and Spring 2027.

■ **Nicholas Vlamis** will remain on leave through Fall 2026.

Promotion

2026–2027

■ **Maria Sabitova and Adam Kapelner** were promoted to full professors.

Gorenstein Visitor Professor Samantha Jarvis

This academic year the department hosted **Dr. Samantha Jarvis**, a visiting Gorenstein Professor, made possible by the Gorenstein Visitor Program. Jarvis' expertise is category theory, with particular emphasis on applications to modeling language. This year, she gave talks to students and professors on introductory category theory as well as her research, while also teaching undergraduate courses, and conducting an independent study with one Masters' student on category theory. Jarvis brought immense theoretical knowledge that bridges well to state-of-the-art applications of mathematics, making it accessible to students and the faculty at large. It was a great pleasure to have Dr. Jarvis join us this year!



Celebrating our Students

Class of 2026 — Honors in Math

Andrew Bevilacqua
Sanaa Bokhari
Christian De La Torre
Jocelyn Diaz
Benjamin Driks
Joshua Eisner
Abigail Eleyahouzadeh

Continued on next page

Max Gleicher
Shana Harris
Mingyu Huo
Hanan Latiff
Yingna Ruan
Daniel Shadock
Chayim Steinberg
Jacob Tennenbaum
Andrew Thorl
Anthony Wright
Rina Yanowitz
Esther Yee

2026 Departmental Awards and Scholarships

Andrew Bevilaqua – *Fugosich Scholarship*
Christian De La Torre – *Banesh Hoffmann Memorial Award*
Benjamin Driks – *Samuel Jacobs Award*
Safiyah Gafar – *S. and D. Kulkarni Memorial Award for Excellence in Complex Analysis*
Shana Harris – *Mrs. Neela Kulkarni Prize*
Hanan Latiff – *Nick Metas Award*
Benjamin Pulatov – *Dr. Ravindra S. Kulkarni Mathematics Award in Number Theory or Algebra*
Daniel Shadock – *Arthur Sard Memorial Award*

Allen Singleton – *Thomas A. Budne Memorial Award, Joseph Hershenov Prize, and Dr. Ravindra S. Kulkarni Mathematics Award in Number Theory or Algebra*

Chayim Steinberg – *S. and D. Kulkarni Memorial Award for Excellence in Differential Geometry*

Lukas Tarrao – *Dr. Ravindra S. Kulkarni Mathematics Award in Number Theory or Algebra*

Jacob Tennenbaum – *Nick Metas Award, and Eva and Jacob Paulson Memorial Award*

Diego Vega – *Claire and Samuel Jacobs Award*

Rowida Zaid – *Dr. Ravindra S. Kulkarni Mathematics Award in Topology or Geometry*

Faculty Awards

The Simons Collaboration Grant

Yunping Jiang
Krzysztof Klosin
Russell Miller
Dragomir Šarić
John Terilla
Scott Wilson

National Science Foundation

Russell Miller
Alexey Ovchinnikov
Dragomir Šarić
Nicholas Vlamis

Office of Naval Research

Delaram Kahrobaei

Queens College Divisional Teaching Award

Adam Kapelner

CUNY Research Incentive Awards

Adam Kapelner (with William Blanford in Environmental Science)

PSC-CUNY

Moshe Adrian
Christopher Hanusa
Krzysztof Klosin
Russell Miller
Sudeb Mitra
Dragomir Šarić
Nick Vlamis
Scott Wilson