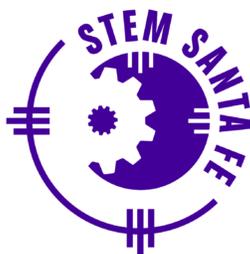


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## STEM Santa Fe Planning the first ever Virtual Math festival

STEM Santa Fe is pleased to organize another **2020 Julia Robinson Mathematics Festival (JRMF) on Wednesday, May 6, 2020, hosted virtually on Zoom.** Fifty-five students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade from The Academy for Technology and the Classics (ATC) will participate for an hour with six exciting math activities led by trained facilitators that will simulate face-to-face festivals.

The STEM Santa Fe Julia Robinson Mathematics Festival is one of several programs that STEM Santa Fe offers to Northern NM students. For four years, STEM Santa Fe has successfully sparked the curiosity of students and teachers alike to the joy and beauty of mathematics through these festivals. STEM Santa Fe brought JRMF to New Mexico for the first time on February 24, 2017 and it was very well received. Since then STEM Santa Fe has organized this festival annually at Santa Fe Community College, and has expanded the program to Northern New Mexico College and Santa Fe Indian School. **Next week STEM Santa Fe will expand the program again by offering this festival virtually for first time ever globally, as a response to the COVID-19 situation.**

Dr. Lina Germann, Founder and CEO of STEM Santa Fe noted: "We are proud to partner with ATC and especially with math teachers Dr. Lori Brown and Delara Sharma as well as with Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to bring together students and volunteers virtually to learn, through puzzles, games, and activities not typically seen in the classroom, of the fun side of math. We had originally planned to hold a math festival in May and the virus is not going to stop us."

This is a closed event for ATC students, who are the trailblazers taking on this new opportunity and pioneering this uncharted territory with us. STEM Santa Fe invites other schools to reach out if interested in hosting a virtual math festival for their students.

**STEM Santa Fe is grateful for the its STEM partners who allow us to stay innovative and adaptable to the needs of our community.** We mainly thank Los Alamos National Lab/TRIAD, LANL Foundation, Wildflower International, Meow Wolf, N3B Los Alamos, Descartes Labs, Santa Fe Community Foundation, Sandia National Labs, and Del Norte Credit Union.

**A Julia Robinson Mathematics Festival** offers students advanced and thought-provoking problem sets, games, or puzzles with mathematical themes in a social and cooperative atmosphere. Trained facilitators provide support, encouragement and motivation to the students who discover the joy of math without any competition for a prize, grade, medal, or ranking. The festival can address any level of student, from those struggling with mathematics to those soaring in achievement. The Julia Robinson Mathematics Festivals began in the San Francisco Bay Area in 2007 and have since expanded throughout the country and the world!

*STEM Santa Fe advocates for, develops, and provides Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programming, mentoring, and resources for all youth, to realize their potential and expand their opportunities in a dynamic world.*