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For Immediate Release

The National Museum of Mathematics, Only Math Museum in North America, Chooses First Canadian Winner of 2019 *Rosenthal Prize for Innovation and Inspiration in Math Teaching* – Nat Banting of Marion M. Graham Collegiate and University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Since 2012, MoMath has awarded \$264,000 to 26 Rosenthal Prize winners to promote innovative, hands-on math teaching in upper elementary, middle school, and high school

Prizes will be presented on Tuesday, January 7, 7:00 p.m. at MoMath

New York, NY (December 6, 2019)—The [National Museum of Mathematics](#) (MoMath), the only Math Museum in North America, has chosen the first Canadian winner of the 2019 *Rosenthal Prize for Innovation and Inspiration in Math Teaching* – Nat Banting, a mathematics teacher at Marion M. Graham Collegiate and a faculty member of the Department of Curriculum Studies at the College of Education, University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Mr. Banting's winning lesson, "Dice Auction: Putting Outcomes of the Dice Up for Sale" was chosen as the most innovative, unique, and interesting project for students. In the winning lesson, students test their intuitive probabilistic

reasoning of dice throws with a dynamic "outcomes auction." Reality – and mathematics – then provide feedback! The annual *Rosenthal Prize*, which includes a cash award of \$25,000, will be presented on Tuesday, January 7, at 7:00 p.m. at MoMath, during the monthly *Math Encounters* presentation (mathencounters.org).

A runner-up *Rosenthal Prize* with a \$15,000 cash award was given to Matt Roscoe, a math professor at the University of Montana in Missoula, MT. In Dr. Roscoe's lesson "Building the City of Numbers: An Exploration of Unique Prime Factorization," the prime factorizations of the counting numbers from 2 to 100 come to stunning, three-dimensional life. Matt will also receive his award on January 7.

MoMath's *Rosenthal Prize*, established in 2012 to recognize and promote creative and engaging hands-on math teaching, has given cash awards through the program to 26 teachers, totaling \$264,000. Each year, the winning classroom instructional activities are shared via MoMath's website with teachers across North America. Over the years, *Rosenthal Prize* winners have developed a wide range of classroom lessons, including math probability activities, exploration of the math of fashion design, and an investigation of projections using light and shadows.

The award is named for Saul Rosenthal, President of investment firm Oxford Lane Capital Corp and a long-time supporter of math education.

"As both a student and occasional guest teacher, I have always been thrilled the moment a student understands a challenging math concept or sees it in a new way," explained Saul Rosenthal. "I was delighted to work with the founders of MoMath to create this prize to recognize truly innovative and inspiring teachers. It's wonderful to see so many extraordinary teachers submit their lesson plans, and it's a delight to select a winner!"

"MoMath is thrilled to award the 2019 *Rosenthal Prize* to Nat Banting from Canada, the first math educator from outside of the United States to win the award, and to provide a runner-up award to Matt Roscoe, the first full-time math professor to win an award," said Cindy Lawrence, CEO and Executive Director of MoMath. "Nat and Matt truly deserved to win this year's *Rosenthal Prize* for their

dedication to mathematics and creativity and for their innovative lesson plans. This competition has allowed MoMath to build a strong database of lessons provided by outstanding math teachers around the world, which we share without charge on our website for math teachers worldwide.”

Saul Rosenthal will present this year’s prizes to the winners at a ceremony at MoMath on Tuesday, January 7, at 7:00 p.m.

More information about submitting applications for the 2020 *Rosenthal Prize for Innovation and Inspiration in Math Teaching* can be found at rosenthal.momath.org.

About the National Museum of Mathematics

MoMath, located at 11 East 26th Street on the north side of popular Madison Square Park in Manhattan, is open seven days a week, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. For more information, visit momath.org.

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