



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath)
to Host “Math Encounters – Calculated Movements: The Surprising Connections
Between Math and Dance” with Karl Schaffer**

Special introduction by Presidential Award-winning educator Dave Masunaga

Wednesday, July 11 at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

New York, NY (June 25, 2018), The [National Museum of Mathematics \(MoMath\)](#) will present [“Calculated Movements: The Surprising Connections Between Math and Dance”](#) with Karl Schaffer on Wednesday, July 11 at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. The event, which will explore the overlapping studies of dance and math, is the latest installment of the popular series, *Math Encounters*, a free series of public programs that celebrate the spectacular world of mathematics, produced with support from the Simons Foundation.

“Calculated Movements” will feature a special introduction by Presidential Award-winning educator Dave Masunaga. At the event, mathematician and choreographer Karl Schaffer will explore the many ways math and dance are connected through audience participation, video excerpts, slides, visuals, and lecture.

“We are pleased that Karl Schaffer will be the featured guest speaker at the next installment of *Math Encounters* to present the intriguing connections between the two disciplines of math and dance,” said Cindy Lawrence, Executive Director of MoMath. “Karl provides a framework for a fascinating demonstration of how the creative process is the fundamental fuel that drives achievement across many areas that don’t necessarily seem connected.”

Schaffer’s presentation will examine the mathematical concepts used in many types of choreography, including modern, ballet, folk and other dance forms, and show how math patterns and sequences are embedded in dance steps. Also, Schaffer will explain how dance demonstrates how different types of symmetries can interact with each other.

Karl Schaffer is a dancer, choreographer, and mathematician who co-directs MoveSpeakSpin and the Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern Dance Ensemble (DSMS) with Erik Stern. The Ensemble has toured internationally for over 25 years and has received five National Endowment for the Arts awards for work linking dance and mathematics. Karl Schaffer and Erik Stern co-authored the book *Math Dance* with Scott Kim; and they

are on the Kennedy Center's Partners in Education Teaching Artist roster, teaching professional development workshops on math and dance at major arts venues around the U.S.

About the National Museum of Mathematics

The National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath) strives to enhance public understanding and perception of mathematics in daily life. Currently celebrating its fifth anniversary, MoMath has reached more than 1.5 million New Yorkers and visitors from around the world.

The only math museum in North America, MoMath fills a critical demand around the country and worldwide for hands-on math programming, offering a space where the math-challenged, as well as math enthusiasts of all backgrounds and levels of understanding can enjoy the infinite and beautiful world of mathematics through more than 37 unique, state-of-the-art, interactive exhibits.

In addition to MoMath's home in New York City, Museum exhibitions and content are currently featured in Singapore, Brazil, Germany, Russia, Spain, Sweden and the UK.

MoMath received the 2016 Communications Award for Public Outreach from the Joint Policy Board for Mathematics. The Museum was awarded the bronze 2013 MUSE Award for Education and Outreach by the American Alliance of Museums. MoMath has been recognized as the Most Fascinating Museum in New York State by the TripAdvisor vacation site, and hailed as "Best Museum for Kids" by *New York Magazine*.

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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