

For Immediate Release

Fields Medal Winner and Princeton Professor Manjul Bhargava to Explore
Mathematical Patterns in Nature at the National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath)
and Detail How Nature Inspired His Award-Winning Career in Math

Dr. Bhargava's "Patterns in Nature" event will be held as part of his installation celebration as MoMath's Inaugural Distinguished Visiting Professor for the Public Dissemination of Mathematics — the first visiting professorship in the U.S. dedicated to raising public awareness and appreciation of math

Tuesday, November 27, 7:30 p.m.

New York, NY (November 14, 2018): Fields Medal winner and Princeton Professor Manjul Bhargava will explore the mathematical patterns found in nature at the <u>National Museum of Mathematics</u> (MoMath) and detail how nature inspired his award-winning career in math. Dr. Bhargava's "Patterns in Nature" event will be held at MoMath on **Tuesday, November 27, at 7:30 p.m.** as part of his installation celebration as MoMath's Inaugural Distinguished Visiting Professor for the Public Dissemination of Mathematics—the first visiting professorship in the U.S. dedicated to raising public awareness and appreciation of math.

Dr. Bhargava will speak on the multitude of beautiful patterns found in the world around us - from tilings on kitchen floors, to petals on daisies and spirals on pinecones, to the emergence of cicadas into the sunlight every 17 years - and how his desire to understand these various enigmatic patterns eventually inspired him to pursue research mathematics as a career. Indeed, it was the patterns he saw in stacks of oranges near the family juicer that first sparked his interest in mathematics. Dr. Bhargava's story, from growing up on suburban Long Island, to attending the top academic institutions in the world, to winning the most coveted award in all of mathematics, will be sure to delight and entertain while also conveying the amazing beauty of mathematics in the world around us.

"We are very excited to install Manjul as MoMath's first Distinguished Visiting Professor for the Public Dissemination of Mathematics and to celebrate his remarkable achievements," said Cindy Lawrence, Executive Director of MoMath. "In just a few short months, Manjul has excited and enlightened the general public by offering advanced educational opportunities to math lovers of all ages and abilities. Manjul embodies MoMath's mission as the only math Museum in North America to stimulate inquiry, spark curiosity, and reveal the joy and wonder of mathematics."

Dr. Bhargava's career as a world-class mathematician has led to many top mathematics honors and awards, including the prestigious Fields Medal—the highest award in the field of mathematics awarded

for outstanding mathematical achievement—as well as being named one of *Popular Science Magazine's* "Brilliant 10" in 2002. He is passionate about bringing the beauty, excitement, and fun of math directly to a broader public, and sees his new role at MoMath as a major part of fulfilling that passion.

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 northside 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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