

For Immediate Release

The National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath) Announces September Public Book Events Featuring Prominent Scientific and Mathematical Authors from Around the World

MoMath book events feature stimulating discussions on popular books about math and science

New York, NY (August 29, 2018): The National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath) announced its September lineup of public book events featuring prominent scientific and mathematical authors from around the world. The book events are part of MoMath's mission to combine the fun of reading about math for people of all ages and all levels of mathematical knowledge. MoMath's public book events are held at the Museum, located at 11 East 26th Street next to Madison Square Park in Manhattan.

"What better way to learn about the beauty and excitement of math and science than to hear a writer passionately talk about their recent book?" explained MoMath's Executive Director, Cindy Lawrence. "Our book events feature prestigious authors from around the world who challenge our MoMath community to further explore the wonders of math and science in new and exciting ways."

MoMath's book events explore an array of compelling topics, including the human mind and nature of thinking, the spark that ignited the Big Bang, algorithms in automating important decisions, and much more.

MoMath's September book events include:

 Losing the Nobel Prize by Brian Keating Thursday, September 13, 7 p.m.

What would it have been like to be an eyewitness to the Big Bang? In 2014, astronomers wielding BICEP2, the most powerful cosmology telescope ever made, revealed that they'd glimpsed the spark that ignited the Big Bang. Millions around the world tuned in to the announcement broadcast live from Harvard University, immediately igniting rumors of an imminent Nobel Prize. But had these cosmologists truly read the cosmic prologue or, swept up in Nobel dreams, had they been deceived by a galactic mirage?

 When Einstein Walked with Gödel: Excursions to the Edge of Thought by Jim Holt Thursday, September 20, 6:30 p.m.

Does time exist? What is infinity? Why do mirrors reverse left and right but not up and down? In this scintillating collection of essays, Jim Holt explores the human mind, the cosmos, and the thinkers who have tried to encompass the latter with the former.

 Hello World! by Hannah Fry Tuesday, September 25, 6 p.m. UK-based mathematician and University College London senior lecturer Hannah Fry will consider the role of algorithms in automating important decisions in crime, healthcare, relationships, and money. Should we entrust ourselves to driverless cars? Are machines capable of producing great works of art? How do we balance the importance of making better medical diagnoses with the value of preserving privacy? Our increasing reliance on pre-defined, quantitative decision-making rules raises provocative questions about what we want our lives to look like.

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 year of operation, 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 40 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, Pakistan, the Netherlands, 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 <u>momath.org.</u>

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