



## **National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath) Appoints “Mathemagician” Art Benjamin as 2025-2026 Visiting Professor for Public Outreach**

*Dr. Benjamin will present public programs that introduce audiences to math’s surprising cross-disciplinary connections with games, puzzles, magic, and mental calculations*

**(New York, NY – April 1, 2025)** —The [National Museum of Mathematics](#) (MoMath) announced the appointment of “mathemagician” Art Benjamin as 2025-2026 Visiting Professor for Public Outreach, beginning August 2025.

During his one-year appointment, sponsored by the Overdeck Family Foundation, Benjamin will host MoMath’s monthly programs “Ask a Mathematician,” “QED,” “Meet a Mathematician,” “Volumes,” “Tween Primes,” and “Starring Math.” Additionally, Benjamin will offer mini-courses, including “Games, Puzzles, and Magic” in the fall of 2025, “Backgammon” in the spring of 2026, and a summer 2026 mini-course on “Fibonacci Numbers and the Golden Ratio.” Benjamin has a unique talent for performing rapid mental calculations entertainingly, which has garnered him international attention. He has given three TED talks which have been viewed over 50 million times.

“Art Benjamin is a longtime friend of MoMath who has presented at the Museum many times over the years,” said Cindy Lawrence, MoMath’s Executive Director & CEO. “Art has a talent for bringing math to life in an engaging way that attracts audiences of all ages. He is best known for his mental math – or ‘mathemagician’ presentations - that combine mathematics and magic.”

Since 1989, Dr. Benjamin has been the Smallwood Family Professor of Mathematics, and past chair, at Harvey Mudd College. His research areas include combinatorics and number theory, with a special fondness for Fibonacci numbers. Many of these ideas appear in his book (co-authored with Jennifer Quinn), “Proofs That Really Count: The Art of Combinatorial Proof.” In 2006, the book received the Beckenbach Book Prize

from the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). Professors Benjamin and Quinn were the editors of Math Horizons magazine from 2004 through 2008.

“I look forward to a year of in-person and online events at MoMath to showcase the beauty and magic of mathematics,” explained Benjamin. “It’s going to be a lot of fun.”

Benjamin, the 2017 recipient of the Communications Award from the Joint Policy Board for Mathematics, has created six video courses for “The Great Courses” on The Joy of Mathematics, Discrete Mathematics, Mental Math, Games and Puzzles, Math & Magic, and his latest course on Fibonacci Numbers and the Golden Ratio. His books include “Secrets of Mental Math” (over 300,000 copies sold), “The Magic of Math” (a *New York Times* Bestseller), “Proofs That Really Count,” “Biscuits of Number Theory,” and “The Fascinating World of Graph Theory.” He is currently writing a book on “The Mathematics of Games and Puzzles.”

Art Benjamin’s other passion is magic. As a professional magician, he has entertained audiences all over the world, including The Magic Castle in Hollywood. He has appeared on *CNN*, *The Today Show*, *The Colbert Report*, and *National Public Radio*. He has been profiled in *The New York Times*, *People Magazine*, and *Reader’s Digest*, which calls him “America’s Best Math Whiz.”

Benjamin earned a BS in Applied Mathematics from Carnegie Mellon and his PhD in Mathematical Sciences from Johns Hopkins. In 2000, he received the Haimo Award for Distinguished Teaching from the MAA and served as the MAA’s Polya Lecturer from 2006 to 2008. He is past president of the Fibonacci Association and is in the American Backgammon Hall of Fame.

### **About the National Museum of Mathematics**

The National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath) is North America’s premier cultural institution devoted to the wonders of mathematics and its many connections to the world around us. Transformed temporarily into a pop-up museum called *MoMath on Fifth*, located at 225 Fifth Avenue on the corner of 26<sup>th</sup> Street and Fifth Avenue, the Museum is open seven days a week, from 10 am to 5 pm. MoMath is expected to open at its new permanent location in 2026.

During its physical transition, MoMath continues its robust online programming. *MoMath on Fifth* contains new exhibits as well as popular favorites, like Beaver Run and the Square Wheel Trike, and welcomes residents, members, families, school groups, and visitors from around the country and world. In-person programming, including talks, birthday parties, events, and field trips, are also offered at *MoMath on Fifth*.

Since opening in December 2012, MoMath has greeted over 1.4 million visitors, including more than 300,000 students. When mandated by New York City to close in March 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic, MoMath transformed itself into a virtual Museum creating an extraordinary global footprint. Since that time, MoMath has provided nearly 5,500 online programs reaching more than 150,000 participants from all 50 U.S. States and 126 countries.

For more information, visit [momath.org](https://momath.org).

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