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National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath) Appoints Duke University Professor of Mathematics and Electrical and Computer Engineering Ingrid Daubechies as Annual Distinguished Visiting Professor for the Public Dissemination of Mathematics

Daubechies will hold public programs to ignite public interest in math and art

(New York, NY - August XXX, 2023) – The National Museum of AugusMathematics (MoMath) announced the appointment of Ingrid Daubechies, James B. Duke Professor of Mathematics and Electrical and Computer Engineering Professor, as MoMath's Distinguished Visiting Professor for the Public Dissemination of Mathematics, beginning this fall. During Dr. Daubechies one-year appointment, she will focus her public programming on math and art.

Dr. Daubechies' work in the public domain spans a broad range of endeavor, from using math to authenticate fine art to collaborating on comics that integrate math concepts for younger audiences. Dr. Daubechies is known for her creation with Dominique Ehrmann of "Mathemalchemy," an eclectic and visually rich room-sized exhibit with dozens of hidden and compelling mathematical stories. The exhibit travels the world blending math learning and art for all ages. Dr. Daubechies will use her interest in the intersection of art and math to create programming that uses hands-on activities to engage participants. She also will showcase some of her earlier work, for instance demonstrating the power of wavelets in various applications, from image compression to medical and astronomical signal analysis.

"We are thrilled to have Ingrid join the MoMath team in the coming academic year," said Cindy Lawrence, MoMath's CEO and Executive Director. "Ingrid has a unique ability to demonstrate how math permeates life and art. Her accomplishments include work that appeals to the most astute mathematicians as well as programs for general audiences, making her ideal for a senior role in dissemination at the Museum."

MoMath's Distinguished Visiting Professor for the Public Dissemination of Mathematics is an annual program supported by the Simons Foundation.

"Ingrid's passion and creativity will be a tremendous asset as an ambassador for MoMath," said Marilyn and James Simons in a joint statement. "Physicist-turned mathematician, Ingrid has a unique ability to expand her knowledge and education skills to reach all ages whether through comic books or fine art interpretation."

Dr. Daubechies currently teaches at Duke University, where she is the James B. Duke Professor of Mathematics and Electrical and Computer Engineering. She studied at Vrije Universitieit Brussels where she also earned her PhD. She is a member of both the mathematics and electrical and computer engineering departments at Duke University. She is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, National Academy of Sciences and American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Her work focuses on the study of wavelets and other mathematical algorithms useful for technology, as well as applications to science; one ongoing project assists biologists in the study of bones and teeth. Additionally, she has designed image processing techniques to assist curators and conservators in fine arts, and she has participated in the study of works of such renowned artists as Van Gogh and Rembrandt.

"I very much look forward to this coming year in New York City, where I plan to work with MoMath on new programs, and in particular with Chaim Goodman-Strauss, one of the co-inventors of families of connected shapes each of which can tile the plane, using copies of only itself, and only aperiodically," said Dr. Daubechies. "I also plan to stop by regularly at the Flatiron Institute, located very close to MoMath, and interact with computational researchers there."

Dr. Daubechies has won numerous awards for her research, including being named the first woman to receive the National Academy of Sciences Award in Mathematics in 2000. Earlier this year, she became the first woman to receive the Wolf Prize in Mathematics. Her awards and recognition span decades and her work is esteemed worldwide.

Past MoMath Distinguished Visiting Professors include Dr. Tim Chartier, Davidson College, (2022-2023), Dr. Steven Strogatz, Cornell University (2021-2022), Dr. Alex Kontorovich, Rutgers University (2020-2021); Dr. Peter Winkler, Dartmouth University (2019-2020); and Fields Medalist, Dr. Manjul Bhargava, Princeton University (2018-2019).

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. Located at 11 East 26th Street in Manhattan, MoMath is home to more than 40 interactive, engaging, and playful exhibits. The Museum is open seven days a week, from 10 am to 5 pm.

Since opening in December 2012, MoMath has welcomed more than 1.2 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 with an extensive 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 from 126 other countries.

For more information, visit momath.org.

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