



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Museum of Mathematics Names Fields Medalist Dr. Manjul Bhargava as First President

(New York, NY – March 2, 2026)—The [National Museum of Mathematics](#) (MoMath) has named Dr. Manjul Bhargava, the R. Brandon Fradd Professor of Mathematics at Princeton University and winner of the 2014 Fields Medal, the highest award in mathematics, as the first President of the institution. A member of the Board of Directors of the National Museum of Mathematics since 2018, Dr. Bhargava assumed this new role in February 2026.

In his capacity as President, Dr. Bhargava will serve as a global ambassador and mathematical consultant, helping to develop the Museum’s short- and long-term strategic vision, exhibit design, and educational content to further MoMath’s mission of making mathematics accessible and engaging for all.

Dr. Bhargava is internationally recognized for his groundbreaking research work in the field of number theory, for which he received the prestigious Fields Medal in 2014, considered the Nobel Prize in mathematics. A primary author of India’s new National Education Policy and National Curriculum Frameworks for Early Childhood Education and School Education, Dr. Bhargava was also awarded the Padma Bhushan, India’s third-highest civilian honor, in 2015.

Dr. Bhargava has given numerous talks and participated in countless programs at MoMath since its opening. In 2018, he was named MoMath’s inaugural Distinguished Visiting Professor for the Public Dissemination of Mathematics, where he spent one year advocating for the museum.

“Dr. Manjul Bhargava is an extraordinary mathematician and an inspired choice as MoMath’s first President,” said John Overdeck, Chair of MoMath’s Board of Directors. “His leadership reflects both how far the Museum has come over the past 13 years and our ambition to bring the beauty and power of mathematics to even broader audiences in the

years ahead. We are excited for the visionary and practical contributions Manjul will make as MoMath enters its new chapter.”

Dr. Bhargava also currently serves as the Stieltjes Professor of Number Theory at Leiden University. He also holds Adjunct Professorships at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, and the University of Hyderabad. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2013, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2017.

“I am very excited to help take MoMath to new heights as it embarks on this exciting next chapter. MoMath’s bigger and better space on Sixth Avenue provides the perfect stage to share the fun and beauty of mathematics with an even broader audience,” said Dr. Bhargava.

An accomplished musician and percussionist, Dr. Bhargava studied the tabla under gurus such as Ustad Zakir Hussain. He also learned Sanskrit from his grandfather, Purushottam Lal Bhargava, a renowned scholar of Sanskrit and ancient Indian history, and is an admirer of Sanskrit poetry and meter.

“Dr. Manjul Bhargava is a brilliant mathematician, an innovative educator, and an outreach expert who has supported MoMath since the Museum opened its doors 13 years ago,” said Cindy Lawrence, the Executive Director and CEO of MoMath. “We are delighted that Manjul will be joining us in our ongoing work to make math come alive for people of all ages and backgrounds.”

MoMath has opened a new permanent location at 635 Sixth Avenue, located on Sixth Avenue at 19th Street, on the northwest corner. The new location opened with 46,000 sq ft, more than double the size of the original space. It will house more than 70 new and legacy exhibits that showcase the beauty and fun of mathematics for people of all ages and backgrounds.

About the National Museum of Mathematics

The National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath) is North America’s leading cultural institution dedicated to exploring the wonders of mathematics and its many connections to the world around us. In 2026, MoMath moved to a permanent new location at 635 Sixth Avenue, between West 19th and West 20th Streets, in Manhattan’s Chelsea neighborhood. The Museum is open seven days a week, from 10 am to 5 pm.

MoMath offers a wide range of online programs and over 70 on-site exhibits, including Beaver Run and the Square Wheel Trike. MoMath welcomes residents, members, families, school groups, and visitors from all over the country and the world. In-person activities such as talks, birthday parties, events, and field trips are also available at MoMath.

Since opening in December 2012, MoMath has welcomed over 1.4 million visitors, including more than 300,000 students. When New York City mandated closures in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, MoMath transitioned to a virtual museum, establishing a strong

global presence. Since then, MoMath has hosted nearly 6,200 online programs, reaching over 190,000 participants from all 50 U.S. states and 141 countries.

For more information, visit momath.org.

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