



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MATHEMATICS

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National Museum of Mathematics Opens New Building in Chelsea, Doubling in Size

Fields Medalist Dr. Manjul Bhargava appointed as the Museum's first President

(New York, NY — February 26, 2026) — The National Museum of Mathematics (MoMath), North America's leading cultural institution dedicated to the wonders of mathematics, will open the doors to the public at its new permanent location at 635 Sixth Avenue in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood on Friday, February 27. The new MoMath will feature more than 70 exhibits, including new displays and popular favorites, designed to showcase the beauty and fun of mathematics for people of all ages and backgrounds.

Located on the northwest corner of 19th Street and Sixth Avenue, the new two-story MoMath covers approximately 46,000 square feet—more than double the size of the Museum's original location. The space was designed by the internationally acclaimed architecture firm Perkins Eastman and funded through a \$60 million capital campaign. The expanded area features a dedicated space for early learners, a presentation zone, six modern classrooms, and areas for events, school groups, and community programs. The building's large street-level windows showcase MoMath's activities and programs.

"At a time of rapid important progress in AI and technology, a deep understanding of mathematics has never been more essential," said John Overdeck, Board Chair, National Museum of Mathematics. "MoMath plays a unique role in sparking curiosity and confidence in math for people of all ages. Nearly 15 years after the museum first opened its doors, this expansion reflects both the scale of our ambition and the extraordinary generosity of the donors and supporters who believe in our mission."

"Mathematics is everywhere — it fuels innovation, shapes our world, and sparks curiosity at every age," said Cindy Lawrence, MoMath's Executive Director and CEO. "Since opening our doors in 2012, MoMath has connected with more than 1.4 million people through our mission to share the beauty and excitement of math."

Demand for MoMath’s exhibits and programs is strong, and each year we welcome tens of thousands of students, families, and lifelong learners.,” Lawrence explained. “Our new location in Chelsea will become a destination for New Yorkers and visitors from around the world to explore dozens of innovative exhibits in a space that is large enough and inspiring enough to match the limitless creativity of mathematics itself.

Fields Medalist Dr. Manjul Bhargava Named First President of MoMath

As a further sign of MoMath’s growth and stature, the Museum has appointed Dr. Manjul Bhargava, the R. Brandon Fradd Professor of Mathematics at Princeton University and the recipient of the 2014 Fields Medal — the highest honor in mathematics — as the Museum’s first President. Dr. Bhargava has been on MoMath’s Board of Trustees since 2018 and was the first to hold MoMath’s Distinguished Chair for the Public Dissemination of Mathematics. He assumed this new role early in 2026.

In his role as President, Dr. Bhargava will serve as a representative and advocate for the Museum, assist with the exhibit design process, act as a mathematical consultant, develop educational content, help organize and participate in museum events, and contribute to the development and execution of MoMath’s short-term, medium-term, and long-term strategic plans and vision.

In 2014, Dr. Bhargava received the Fields Medal “for developing powerful new methods in the geometry of numbers, which he applied to count rings of small rank and to bound the average rank of elliptic curves.” He was also honored with the Padma Bhushan, India’s third-highest civilian award, in 2015. Dr. Bhargava currently serves as the Stieltjes Professor of Number Theory at Leiden University and holds adjunct positions at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, and the University of Hyderabad. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2017.

Dr. Bhargava also studied the tabla with teachers like Zakir Hussain and learned Sanskrit from his grandfather, Purushottam Lal Bhargava, a scholar of Sanskrit and ancient Indian history. His strong ties to music, language, and the arts show a natural fit with MoMath’s mission.

Welcoming a world-renowned mathematician like Dr. Manjul Bhargava as MoMath’s first President highlights the institution’s esteemed reputation and the positive influence it has on visitors of all ages and backgrounds worldwide,” said John Overdeck. “We look forward to the visionary and practical contributions Manjul will bring to his new role at the Museum.

“Dr. Manjul Bhargava is a brilliant mathematician, an innovative educator, and an outreach expert who has supported MoMath since the museum opened its doors over

13 years ago,” said Cindy Lawrence. “We are thrilled that Manjul will be joining us in our ongoing efforts to make math come alive for people of all ages and backgrounds.”

“I am truly excited to help lead MoMath to new heights as it begins this exhilarating next chapter,” said Dr. Bhargava. “MoMath’s larger and improved facility on Sixth Avenue provides the perfect stage to share the fun and wonder of mathematics with a broader audience.

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 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 more than 70 on-site exhibits, including Beaver Run and the Square Wheel Trike. It welcomes residents, members, families, school groups, and visitors from all over the country and the world. In-person activities like 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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CONTACT: Erica Bates | erica@gzandassociates.com | 917-559-4984