



# The **POWER** + *Beauty* of **MATHEMATICS**

Hosted by the  
Department of Mathematics

Image: Mandelbrot set

Through wide-ranging presentations by experts in the field of mathematics and follow-up discussions and analysis with students and faculty, the Nelson Series will celebrate and explore the impact that mathematics has had upon the world — as a tool to develop public policy and solve societal issues, as a driver of innovation and creativity in media and entertainment, and as a unique and beautiful, stand-alone art form.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 7:30 P.M.**

**BRIAN GREENE**

**Professor of Mathematics and Physics, Columbia University**

A math prodigy and Rhodes Scholar, Brian Greene is a leading proponent of superstring theory, the idea that minuscule strands of energy vibrating in 11 dimensions create every particle and force in the universe. He is author of "The Elegant Universe," a Pulitzer finalist.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9 7:30 P.M.**

**DANICA MCKELLAR**

**Mathematician, actor and author**

Danica McKellar, a summa cum laude mathematics graduate from UCLA—best known as the actress who played Winnie Cooper on "The Wonder Years" and Elsie Snuffin on "The West Wing"—is a two-time *New York Times* best-selling author of the books, "Math Doesn't Suck" and "Kiss My Math."

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30 7:30 P.M.**

**GARY LORDEN**

**Professor of Mathematics and Executive Officer for Mathematics, Caltech**

Gary Lorden is professor emeritus of mathematics at Caltech, where he taught statistics and probability from 1968 to 2009. For five seasons, he was the lead mathematical adviser to the hit CBS TV show "NUMB3RS." With Keith Devlin of Stanford, he wrote "The Numbers behind Numb3rs: Solving Crime with Mathematics."

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12 7:30 P.M.**

**KEITH DEVLIN**

**Senior Researcher and Executive Director of the Center for the Study of Language and Information, Stanford University**

Keith Devlin, "the Math Guy" on National Public Radio, researches the use of different media to communicate mathematics to diverse audiences. He also works on the design of information/reasoning systems for intelligence analysis. His books include "Goodbye, Descartes: The End of Logic and the Search for a New Cosmology of the Mind" and "Life by the Numbers."

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20 7:30 P.M.**

**STEVEN STROGATZ**

**Jacob Gould Schurman Professor of Applied Mathematics**

Steven Strogatz is known for his contributions to the study of synchronization in dynamical systems, and for his work in a variety of areas of applied mathematics. His 1998 *Nature* paper with Duncan Watts, entitled "Collective dynamics of small-world networks" is the most highly cited article about networks in the past decade.

Lectures are free and open to the public and are held in Galileo Hall on the Harvey Mudd College campus, 301 Platt Boulevard, Claremont. All lectures are followed by a dessert reception. For more information, please call 909/607-0898. Also, visit [www.hmc.edu/nelsonseries09.html](http://www.hmc.edu/nelsonseries09.html) for more series information.