"Thirteen Ways Math and Poetry Connect"

Is this a poem?
Is it a mathematical poem?

FOUR
FOUR
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FOUR

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JoAnne Growney
Friday, November 9 1:00pm
Wachman Hall 617

Abstract

Mathematical patterns give both content and structure to many of the finest and best-remembered poems. In this presentation, guided by a poet-turned-mathematician-turned-poet, we will explore the ways that math and poetry influence each other -- from the Catalan and Fibonacci numbers to sonnets and sestinas. Fun. Exploratory. Some things to remember.

Biography

Growing up on a farm in mid-twentieth-century Pennsylvania, JoAnne Simpson Growney milked cows and read Nancy Drew mysteries and wrote poems and short fiction. But her college scholarship was for science studies – chemistry and mathematics. Eventually she earned an MA in mathematics from Temple (1964). And a PhD from some other university. Years later, a math professor at Pennsylvania's Bloomsburg University, Growney found time for poetry again. She brought mathy poems into her classes. Her residence in the overlap region of the math-poetry Venn diagram for many years has given her a wealth ideas and examples. Some of these appear in her blog, "Intersections – Poetry with Mathematics" at http://poetrywithmathematics.blogspot.com and her Math Club presentation will include a varied selection of these.

Organizers: Irina Mitrea, Maria Lorenz, Department of Mathematics, Temple University

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