Games Mathematicians Play

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Raphael's extraordinary painting *School of Athens* is abuzz with activity and filled with images of some of the greatest thinkers ever known. Euclid, of course, is proving a theorem to several excited onlookers. But what theorem is he proving? Robert Haas takes a close look at the painting and offers several possible answers to this question.

Games have always been central to mathematics, driving both research and mathematical pedagogy. Kathleen Offenholley shares with us some of the advantages and challenges of introducing games into the classroom. Michael Lewis discusses how *The Hunger Games* gives a way to make the odds of exciting students ever in your favor.

This summer issue contains several essays, reports, and reviews. Viktor Blåsjö takes us on a historical tour as he argues for a specific definition of mathematical beauty. Charlotte Henderson reports on the evening of poetry at the Joint Math Meetings this past January. Sarah Voss recalls her experiences leading workshops on Moral Math. Greg Coxson introduces JoAnne Growney's mathematical poetry blog.

Besides the handful of poets included in the Poetry Folder accompanying Henderson's report, Florin Diacu, Ursula Whitcher, and Paige Orland contribute a diverse selection of poems to this issue. Robert Dawson adds a brief short story on disquieting foundational questions, and Marion Cohen shares an intimate memoir about growing up, mathematically and otherwise.

Finally, we are introducing a new section, Announcements, for notes that we think will be of special interest to readers. In this issue Brendan Larvor tells us about the formation of a new research network on mathematical cultures.