A World of Creativity

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Ask any mathematician about the role of creativity in mathematics, and their eyes will light up. Ask a student the same question, and, well, let's just say the response will probably be different. So how can that gap be bridged? How can the importance of imaginativity, inventiveness, originality, and exploration become as standard a feature of mathematics for students as they are for working mathematicians?

This special issue on Creativity in Mathematics provides a plethora of answers to that question, as well as an explorations of the positive effects of building up the imagination when doing mathematics. The guest editors, Milos Savic, Emily Cilli-Turner, Gail Tang, Gulden Karakok, and Houssein El Turkey, have put together a spectacular collection of articles and essays for this special issue. Check out the guest editors' introduction to the contents curated by their team.

To complement this excellent compilation making up the Articles and World of Mathematics content of this issue, we have added a number of other contributions in the remaining categories.

In our Activity section, Günhan Caglayan introduces us to the use of pattern blocks as a tool for both geometrical knowledge and art appreciation.

The Communities section has an article by Michael Barany which explores the foundation of the *Notices of the American Mathematical Society* during the tumultuous McCarthy hearings.

Our Memories & Remembrances section, the first one of its kind, is devoted to Reuben Hersh, who passed away this past January. In her poignant essay, Elena Marchisotto provides a personal tribute to this giant of humanistic mathematics.

Our Poetry section is always a hotbed of creativity. This issue we have a poetry folder by Ashley Delvento (selected by the guest editors), and another one from Craig Steele. Stephen Luecking, Mary Soon Lee, Bruce McGuffin, Barbara Quick, and Jim Wolper also share their poems.

Nora Culik has a short piece of fiction for us, while Egan Chernoff, Nat Banting, and Jay Wilson present a different kind of number line. Finally Frances Rosamond invites all people of mathematics to an international conference on creative mathematics, on a perfect note to close this special issue. May it offer opportunities for joyful and productive contemplation to our readers during these difficult summer months.