



BAMA 3

School Year 2010–2011
Join us for a free talk...

Roger Nelsen

Math Icons: An Exploration of Images



Santa Clara University, Daly Science 207

Wednesday, December 15, 7:30 pm

An icon (from the Greek for “image”) is defined as “a picture that is universally recognized to be representative of something.” The world is full of distinctive icons. Flags and shields represent countries, graphic designs represent commercial enterprises, and computer icons are essential tools for working with a variety of electronic devices from desktop computers to cell phones.

What are the icons of mathematics? numerals? symbols? equations? After many years of working with visual proofs, I believe that certain geometric diagrams play a crucial role in visualizing mathematical proofs. In this talk I’ll present a number of these diagrams, which I call math icons, and explore the mathematics that lies within, and that can be created with them.

Roger Nelsen is Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at Lewis & Clark College, Portland OR. He holds a B.A. from DePauw University, Ph.D. from Duke University, and he taught at L&C for 40 years.

His research interests lie in the area of mathematical statistics. He is also interested in the process of visualization in mathematics, specifically how mathematical drawings help students understand mathematical ideas, arguments, and proofs.

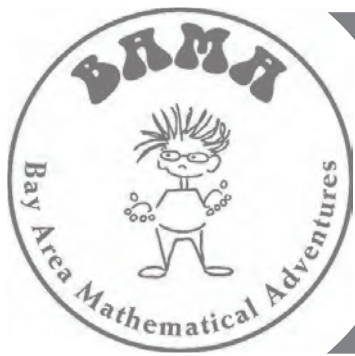
Professor Nelsen published over 100 research and expository papers, and six books. The three most recent ones (with co-author Claudi Alsina) are "Math Made Visual: Creating Images for Understanding Mathematics," "When Less is More: Visualizing Basic Inequalities," and "Charming Proofs: A Journey into Elegant Mathematics."

He enjoys travel, photography, and sailing on the Willamette River in Portland.



* See back for map and directions.

Visit the Bay Area Mathematical Adventures (BAMA) at <http://mathematicaladventures.org>



BAMA

Bay Area Mathematical Adventures

A series of presentations on diverse topics by remarkable mathematicians. All talks are free and open to the public.

WHY?

BAMA aims to challenge and motivate students to think mathematically. Speakers will present real mathematics, and will share with the audience modern views of mathematics. Some talks will provide students with related problems, or will enable teachers to expand later on the topics with their students.

WHO?

BAMA is aimed at bright high-school age students. However, all are welcome: younger or older students, teachers, parents, and the general public.

WHEN?

Evening talks will be given approximately once a month between September and April. Each talk will be self-contained (speakers will not assume their audiences have attended previous talks).

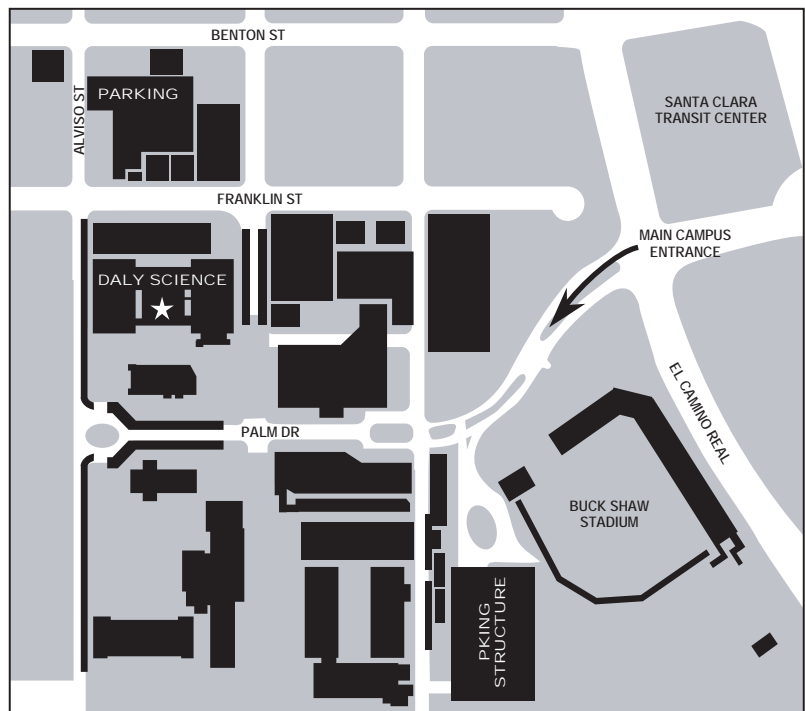
WHERE?

Santa Clara University
Daly Science, rm. 207

- From US Highway 101, take the De La Cruz Blvd/Santa Clara exit and follow the signs to El Camino Real and the main campus entrance.
- From I-280, take I-880 north toward Oakland to The Alameda exit. Turn left onto The Alameda (which becomes El Camino Real) to the main campus entrance.
- From I-880, take The Alameda exit, travel north (The Alameda becomes El Camino Real) to the main campus entrance.

Note: People attending a BAMA talk at SCU may park after 7:00 pm in the Franklin/Alviso parking lot, or ask the SCU guard at the main entrance kiosk for a Visitor Permit for the Parking Structure (garage).

- If you have a disability and require reasonable accommodation, please call anyone on the steering committee, or 1 800 735 2929 (TTY - California Relay) 24 hours in advance.



SPONSORS:

San Jose State University
Departments of Mathematics and Computer Science
College of Engineering

Santa Clara University
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

American Institute of Mathematics

Mathematical Sciences Research Institute

FOR MORE INFO:

<http://www.mathematicaladventures.org>

BAMA Steering Committee:

Tatiana Shubin	SJSU	408-924-5146
Frank Farris	SCU	408-554-4430
Bradley Jackson	SJSU	408-924-5100
Gerald L. Alexanderson	SCU	408-554-6894