



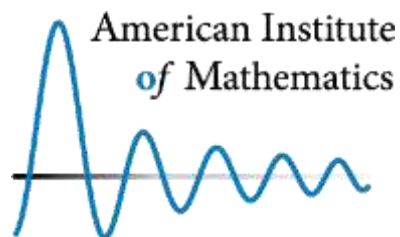
Center for STEM Education and the PIPES Project

Application to Participate
in

THE PIKES PEAK MATH TEACHERS' CIRCLE

**The PPMTC ACADEMY June 19-22, 2012
and Six Evening Dinner Seminars, 2012-13**

Sponsored and Funded by



Application Deadline: March 5, 2012

Teachers' Circles are collaborations between research mathematicians, math teachers, and school administrators. They are motivated by the principle that a key component in students' understanding of mathematics comes from the process of problem solving and critical thinking. This has been a successful approach for engaging the interest of young people in the classroom.

The main activities of a Teachers' Circle are discussion sessions among math teachers led by a mathematician. Although the Teachers' Circle is for teachers, the real focus is on students. Rather than emphasizing math exercises, the techniques discussed during the Teachers' Circles sessions aim to create a culture of problem solving in the classroom. This method presents a challenge where students first have to figure out how to approach the problem and then use creativity and technical skills for the solution.

Another important aspect of the Teachers' Circles is to create a network among math teachers and research mathematicians. This network becomes an invaluable resource of ideas, activities, and support with fellow professionals.

Structure

Participation in The Pikes Peak Math Teachers' Circle entails attendance at the Pikes Peak Math Teachers' Circle Summer Academy and six evening seminars throughout the 2012-2013 school year.

❖ **PPMTC Academy**

The residential summer academy will be held at Estes Park, Colorado, from June 19-22, 2012. Brian Hopkins, PhD, from St. Peter's College in New Jersey will conduct a series of workshops during the day focusing on problem solving techniques for the math classroom. During the evenings, teachers will meet for more discussion and networking. A kit with materials for the classroom will be given to each participant teacher. Lodging and meals will be provided by PIPES. The Academy will begin on Tuesday, June 19 and end on Friday, June 22.

- Two hours of UCCS graduate math credit for participation in the PPMTC Academy will be available (optional) upon completion of the course requirements.

❖ **Dinner Seminars**

6 dinner seminars will be held on the UCCS campus in Colorado Springs from 5:30 -8 PM. A guest mathematician will present a lecture and lead discussion among the math teachers with opportunity for sharing materials and ideas. For applicants outside of the Pikes Peak Region participants will be connected via tele-presence at Otero Junior College, Trinidad Junior College and Lamar Community College [pending]. In addition, participants will present a lesson plan integrating what they learned during the summer academy during these dinner workshops.

- One hour of UCCS graduate math credit for participation in the PPMTC Dinner Seminars will be available (optional) upon completion of the course requirements.

Requirements and Miscellaneous

- ❖ Applicants must be able to attend both the summer academy and the six academic year workshop sessions.
- ❖ Applicants must currently teach at least one mathematics course each semester.
- ❖ Applicants must submit the application form by March 5, 2012, including a one-page essay that describes why the teacher would benefit from being a part of PPMTC, and what the teacher wants to achieve from participation.
- ❖ Upon selection, a \$100 refundable deposit is required by March 12, 2012, to reserve the teacher's slot in the PPMTC Academy. After attendance, this deposit will be returned to the participant.
- ❖ 25 Southern Colorado math teachers will be selected for the program.
- ❖ Applicants will be notified no later than March 15, 2012.

Selection Criteria

- ❖ Commitment to incorporating problem solving ideas in the math classroom
- ❖ Experience with working in teams and groups
- ❖ Enthusiasm to create a problem solving culture in the classroom where risks are taken and challenges are encouraged

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply, complete the following application and submit it to PIPES by mail or e-mail. An electronic version of the application is available for download on the PIPES website: www.uccs.edu/pipes/ppmtc. Please write or type your responses directly onto the form.

Applications may be sent to kfitzpat@uccs.edu, faxed to 719-255-3909 or mailed to:
Kathleen Fitzpatrick
University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
NISSSC/CSTEME
1420 Austin Bluffs Parkway
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2012.

APPLICATION FORM

The Pikes Peak Math Teachers' Circle

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION: MARCH 5, 2012

Please return application to:

kfitzpat@uccs.edu or faxed to: 719-255-3909 or mailed to:

Kathleen Fitzpatrick

University of Colorado at Colorado Springs

NISSSC/CSTEME

1420 Austin Bluffs Parkway

Colorado Springs, CO 80918

NAME: _____

SCHOOL MAILING ADDRESS: _____

HOME MAILING ADDRESS: _____

SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

HOME EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: Work _____

Home _____

Cell _____

Which number do you prefer to be used? _____

SCHOOL/SCHOOL DISTRICT _____

SCHOOL NAME _____

POSITION/TITLE _____

CLASSES TAUGHT THIS YEAR _____

OTHER CLASSES TAUGHT IN THE PAST _____

YEARS TEACHING: _____

UNIVERSITY HIGHEST DEGREE EARNED AND TYPE: _____

DEGREE OBTAINED FROM (COLLEGE): _____

Please limit your essay to one page.

Describe the benefits you hope to get from being a part of The Pikes Peak Math Teachers' Circle. Include methods that you currently incorporate in your classroom that engage students in mathematical inquiry as well as a particular skill you would like to improve.