

Dear fellow dance and mathematics enthusiasts,

This note is to give you a little more background about the now international online **Dance, Movement Arts, and Mathematics (DMAM)** gathering that began on **Sunday, Oct. 4, 2020**. We have been meeting monthly since then on Sunday mornings, California time. **Check the MathDance.org** web site for the latest meeting date and time.

For a number of years several of us have been trying to find ways to increase the dance component of the annual [Bridges mathematics and arts conferences](#),



and also to support the work of people around the world exploring dance and mathematics. At one time we tried to create a pre-Bridges one day gathering of people interested in the connections between dance and mathematics. In 2020 the entire Bridges conference was held online, and we had a one hour online meeting during the conference focusing on dance and mathematics, which became the DMAM gathering that fall.

There are many ways that people have found to link dance and mathematics. You might like to consider how work you have done or are planning intersects with any of the following, or perhaps deals with areas not listed:

- Using dance to examine and strengthen mathematics learning.
- Using mathematics to examine and strengthen dance learning.
- Exploring ways to create performances that display mathematics.
- Exploring ways to create mathematics that illuminates dance.
- Attempting to build a new sub-discipline and a community that supports a cross between dance and mathematics in which neither is “dominant” but both enrich the other.
- Bringing mathematicians and dancers together to collaborate.
- Exploring mathematical elements in movement disciplines that are not specifically dance (mime, ice-skating, gymnastics, etc.)
- Comparing mathematical elements in different dance forms.
- Studying the underlying theoretical and philosophical basis for connections between dance and mathematics often described as embodied cognition.
- Exploring the history of dance and mathematics connections.
- Dealing with performance issues.
- Confronting funding issues.
- Finding ways to disseminate information and resources about dance and mathematics.
- Crossing and expanding disciplinary boundaries: relating math and dance to other areas of science, performing arts, and many other disciplines.

If interested in joining us online at our next meeting, please send an email to DanceAndMath@gmail.com and we will send you the Zoom link. Meetings last 90 minutes. We are especially interested in having new members present about their work dealing with dance or movement arts and mathematics.

Thank you! And please feel free to forward this note to anyone you feel might be interested in joining us.

Karl Schaffer facilitates DMAM and is Co-Artistic Director (with Erik Stern) of MoveSpeakSpin and the Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern Dance Ensemble, which has included in its repertory pioneering dance performances and educational materials connecting dance and mathematics since 1990. He is both a mathematician and dancer/choreographer. (www.mathdance.org)