

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR Alessandra pantano

Dear families,

The new year brought joy to the Math CEO. Our UCI mentors were thrilled to see the middle school

students again; together we explored probability and other exciting mathematics! Please extend the invitation to join Math CEO to siblings and friends. Everyone is welcome, at any time! Your help recruiting more students is much appreciated.



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UPDATES

We've started the year strong! The first parent meeting of the year (1/23) was a success. We appreciated showing new and returning families our program updates and news this year. We also welcomed our talented, new mentors for 2021, and students have already worked with them in enriching math activities!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Student Meeting ID: 985 6415 8394 Student Meeting Passcode: Math CEO

JAN 26 3:30-5:00PM Student Meeting McFadden

ZOOM LINK

TUESDAY

FEB2 3:30-5:00PM Student Meeting McFadden ZOOM LINK JAN 28 3:30-5:00PM Student Meeting Lathrop, Villa, and Carr ZOOM LINK

THURSDAY FEB4 3:30-5:00PM Student Meeting

Lathrop, Villa, and Carr **ZOOM LINK**



We love welcoming new students at all of our meetings! If you're new and want to officially sign up for Math CEO, click <u>here</u> for the sign-up link!

MATH QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Every problem has a solution. You just have to be creative enough to find it."

- Travis Kalanick

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Our first parent meeting of 2021 was on January 23! Thank you to all who attended! We had introductions and mentors sharing their experiences with the program and students! Keep an eye out for future meetings!



Each week, mentors nominate students and fellow mentors, but did you know that students can nominate their mentors too? Click <u>here</u> to access the form!

MENTOR - MELISSA LEPE

This issue's mentor spotlight features McFadden mentor Melissa Lepe! She is a third year Aerospace Engineering student at UCI who grew up in Baldwin Park, a small city in the outskirts of LA. She is also a first generation college student and the oldest of three children. Growing up, her favorite subjects in school were always science and math. When she first heard about Math CEO, she knew she wanted



to make a difference hopefully encourage others to like math and pursue their passions. She was chosen for this spotlight for her distinctly calm and collaborative approach to mentoring. Additionally, we were honored to have her speak about her experiences at the last parent meeting. When asked about her time in the program, Melissa shared, "Learning math and other subjects is not easy, but it can be made fun through challenges and games. Every week, I look forward to teaching, learning, and growing with each of my mentees."

MCFADDEN STUDENT - ETHAN CHEN

This issue's McFadden student spotlight features Ethan Chen! As an enthusiastic and inquisitive student, Ethan is a great problem-solver and a joy to be around. He always participates in the activities and he isn't afraid to open up to the mentors. His outside-of-the-box thinking inspires us all to embrace the creative side of math!

LATHROP STUDENT - DYLAN GÓMEZ

This issue's Lathrop student spotlight features Dylan Gómez! With each activity, he is consistently engaged and loves to participate. His mentors not only appreciate his involvement, but they also say that he is very fun person to be around and to teach. Dylan has a wonderfully interactive personality, and he is a great student to work with!

VILLA STUDENT - XITLALI MELÉNDEZ

This issue's Villa student spotlight features Xitlali Meléndez! Her mentors describe her as an ambitious student with a drive to learn. She isn't afraid to speak up and ask questions, regardless of her knowledge about the concepts covered in the activities. She is a team player, and is very considerate of her peers. Her consistent participation and ability to clearly explain her thinking are very admirable!

CARR STUDENT - KEVIN RODRÍGUEZ

This issue's Carr student spotlight features Kevin Rodríguez! In a time of online learning, it can be difficult to feel the same type of connection and engagement since everything is now on Zoom. It can be difficult to turn on one's camera during online meetings but Kevin's mentors were excited to see his smiling face as he kept his camera on the whole time! This helped the breakout room feel a bit more personal, and reminded us of what we have to look forward to when the pandemic ends.

PHOTOS







contact + socials Website: <u>www.math.uci.edu/mathceo</u> Email: <u>mathceo@uci.edu</u> Instagram: <u>@ucimathceo</u> Twitter: <u>@ucimathceo</u> TikTok: <u>@ucimathceo</u> Facebook: <u>UCI Math CEO</u> YouTube: <u>Math CEO UC Irvine</u>