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Special Issue Call for Papers: The Nature and Experience of Mathematical Beauty

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Special Issue Call for Papers:

The Nature and Experience of Mathematical Beauty

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The *Journal of Humanistic Mathematics* (<http://scholarship.claremont.edu/jhm/>) is pleased to announce a call for papers for a special issue on the Nature and Experience of Mathematical Beauty.

Scope and purpose.

This special issue deals with mathematical beauty, both its nature and how it is experienced in practice. The issue centers around collecting examples of mathematics that is in some way considered beautiful or not beautiful, and examining these examples from several perspectives, among them philosophical, psychological, historical, and aesthetic. Some overarching questions include what gives rise to the sensation of beauty, and what roles the aesthetic plays in the context of mathematical practice. The purpose of the issue is both to highlight a few non-standard examples of mathematical beauty, in order to push the boundaries of the discussion on this topic, as well as to bring together fields relevant to aesthetics in mathematics which are largely done in isolation. This work will contribute to the new field of mathematical aesthetics, which brings to bear analytic techniques from a variety of fields on questions related to the nature and the experience of mathematical beauty.

Topics of primary interest include, but are not limited to:

- Examples or non-examples of beauty in mathematical practice. These contributions should include both a concrete example and accompanying commentary by the author for why the example was experienced as beautiful or not.
- Relations between beauty and/or explanation and/or visualization.
- Theories of mathematical beauty, or aesthetics more generally.
- Experiences of mathematical beauty among children, teachers, mathematicians, etc.

Submissions.

The submission process will take place in two stages. We first solicit 1-2 page abstracts (drafts of papers also ok) by April 1, 2015. We will then contact some of these authors and request that they develop their abstracts into full papers ; these will be due by July 1, 2015. Abstracts should be sent to manya.sundstrom@umu.se and cc'ed to lars-daniel.ohman@umu.se.

All papers will undergo a rigorous blind peer review process.

Guest Editors.

Manya Raman-Sundström, Umeå University
Nathalie Sinclair, Simon Fraser University
Lars-Daniel Öhman, Umeå University

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via email. We would like to thank you in advance for your scientific contribution to the Special Issue.
