

# Math Coming Alive Through Theater, Art, and Exposition

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Mathematics is a fascinating field that is a pinnacle of human endeavor. But most people perceive it to be agonizingly boring and a source of immense anxiety. How can we change the way mathematics is experienced? We will consider options like mathematics and theater, mathematics and expository writing, and mathematics and art, and how each of these can help to change people's attitudes towards mathematics.

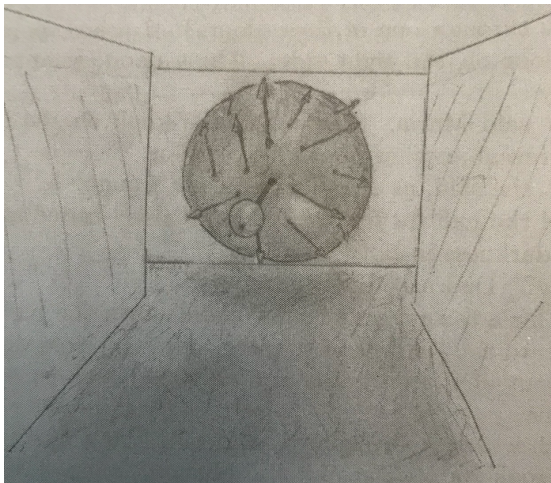


Figure 1: “Attack of the hairy ball” in [1].

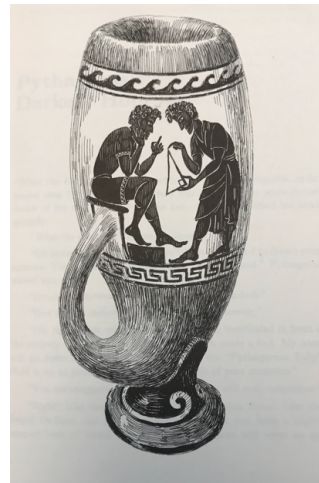


Figure 2: Figure by Pier Gustafson from “Pythagoras’s Darkest Hour” in [2].

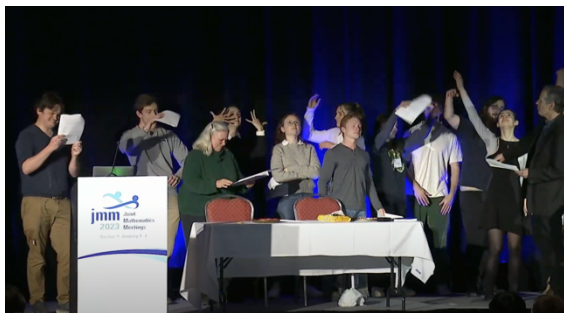


Figure 3: Scene from “Equinox” in [3].



Figure 4: Tom Garrity playing a zombie in [4].

## References

- [1] C. Adams. *Lost in the Math Museum: A Survival Story*. Mathematical Association of America, 2022.
- [2] C. Adams. *Riot at the Calc Exam and Other Stories*. American Mathematical Society, 2009.
- [3] *Mathematically Bent Theater*. Joint Math Meetings, Boston, MA, Jan.6, 2023.
- [4] “Zombies and Calculus.” *NOVA video clip*. Season 41, 2015. <https://www.pbs.org/video/zombies-and-calculus-qhscsq/>