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Mathematician and Philanthropist James Simons to Deliver Public Lecture Oct. 25



James H. Simons, chair of the Simons Foundation and the founder of Renaissance Technologies, will present a public lecture in San Francisco State University's Towers Conference Center on Saturday, Oct. 25, at 6:00 p.m.—the American Mathematical Society's (AMS) Einstein Public Lecture in Mathematics.

In the 1970s, after leaving jobs in academia, Simons founded Renaissance Technologies. There he used mathematical modeling in new ways to become extremely successful in trading—so successful that he is now a billionaire. Simons has translated that success to philanthropy and is a significant benefactor to the mathematical community and to autism research.

In this public talk, "Mathematics, Common Sense, and Good Luck," Simons will ruminate on the three intertwining subjects of his careers: mathematics, finance, and philanthropy.

The lecture is presented by the AMS and by the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI). It is aimed at the general public, as well as at mathematicians and other scientists.

A reception hosted by the SFSU Department of Mathematics and the AMS will follow. The 2014 AMS Einstein Public Lecture is part of the AMS Western Sectional meeting, taking place at SFSU Oct. 25-26.

This event is also part of the Bay Area Science Festival www.bayareascience.org/.

For more information, see www.ams.org//2214_events.html

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Founded in 1888 to further mathematical research and scholarship, today the **American Mathematical Society** fulfills its mission through programs and services that promote mathematical research and its uses, strengthen mathematical education, and foster awareness and appreciation of mathematics and its connections to other disciplines and to everyday life.

The Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI, www.msri.org), in Berkeley, California, is one of the world's preeminent centers for research in the mathematical sciences and has been advancing mathematical research through workshops and conferences since its founding as an independent institute in 1982. Approximately 2,000 mathematicians visit the MSRI each year, and the Institute hosts about 85 leading researchers at any given time for stays of up to one academic year. The Institute has been funded primarily by the National Science Foundation with additional support from other government agencies, private foundations, corporations, individual donors, and more than 100 academic institutions. The MSRI is involved in K-12 math education through its annual Critical Issues in Mathematics Education conferences for educators, math circles, the National Association for Math Circles and its website (NAMC, www.mathcircles.org), and Olympiad math competitions; in undergraduate education through its MSRI-UP program; and in public education through its "Conversations" series and a variety of public events.