



NAVAJO MATH CIRCLES

A film by George Csicsery



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Free Screening

Monday, February 6, 2017 | 6:30 p.m.

Circle Cinema, 12 South Lewis Avenue, Tulsa OK 74104

Co-sponsored by Circle Cinema, The University of Tulsa, Tulsa Math Teachers' Circle and Tulsa Math Girls' Circle with support from the Flint Family Foundation

For additional information visit Tulsa Math Teachers' Circle website: tmtc.utulsa.edu



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www.navajomathcirclesfilm.com

Join Circle Cinema, The University of Tulsa Mathematics Department, Tulsa Math Teachers' Circle (TMTC), and the Tulsa Girls Math Circle (TGMC) at the Circle Cinema, 12 South Lewis Avenue, on Monday, February 6, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. for a **free screening** of *Navajo Math Circles*, a film by George Csicsery. The film, recently broadcast on PBS, is open to the public, will last for one hour and will be followed by a Q&A session led by Tatiana Shubin, the co-founder/co-director of the Navajo Nation Math Circles project.

Navajo Math Circles follows Navajo students in a lively collaboration with mathematicians. Using a model called math circles, the students stay late after school and assemble over the summer at Diné College in Tsaile, Arizona, to study mathematics. The math circles approach emphasizes student-centered learning by putting children in charge of exploring mathematics to their own joy and satisfaction. This is a beautiful film that shows that anyone can learn mathematics if it is approached in the right way. The film shows how math circles help raise the hopes of parents, students, and teachers for a brighter future.

[Tatiana Shubin](#) was born and grew up in the USSR, and as an eighth grader attended a specialized physics and mathematics boarding school in Siberia. These years were instrumental in kindling her passion for mathematics, and convinced her that interaction with working mathematicians can give young students much more than merely a solid training in the subject. This experience prompted her to co-found San Jose Math Circle and the Bay Area Math Adventures in 1998 – both projects have been running ever since - and to become one of the leaders of the National Math Circles movement.

Navajo Math Circles is suitable and instructive for a wide variety of audiences:

- Math educators and administrators at all levels
- Parents
- Community Partners in Education
- Volunteer Math Mentors
- Native American and Minority Education Communities

Math Circles are a form of education outreach and enrichment through which mathematicians share their passion with K-12 teachers and students, working on interesting problems. Math Circles combine significant content with a setting that encourages a sense of discovery and excitement about mathematics through problem solving and interactive exploration.

“Ideal problems are low-threshold, high-ceiling; they offer a variety of entry points and can be approached with minimal mathematical background, but lead to deep mathematical concepts and can be connected to advanced mathematics.” https://www.mathcircles.org/Wiki_WhatsAMathCircle

TMTC was the first math circle in Oklahoma with its inception in October, 2013. TMTC (<http://tmtc.utulsa.edu>) now averages 35 teachers at monthly evening meetings on a school night. TGMC (<http://tgmc.utulsa.edu>), the first girls' math circle/student circle in Oklahoma, is now in its third year and averages 25 middle school girls (grades 6 through 8) on weekly evening meetings that run for six week stretches three times per year. Math Circles are thriving in Tulsa!