## Department of Mathematical Sciences Colloquium

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## **IS MATHEMATICS AN ART?**

"Mathematics is an art... Don't ever let anyone tell you otherwise!" -Russell Crowe from A Beautiful Mind

Many regard mathematics as the purest and most beautiful of all sciences. For the creativity of its proofs, elegance of its theorems, and overlapping applications across diverse fields, many refer to it as a fine art to engage in mathematics.

Is it true that we can regard mathematics as an art? Can we regard mathematics as an art in the same way in which we regard painting, music, theatre, and poetry? What are the requirements for something to be considered art? And more importantly, does mathematics satisfy these conditions?

Pythagorean Theorem, Hypercubes, Non-Euclidean Geometry, and Poincare's Conjecture, as well as ontological problems in mathematical philosophy will all be discussed with respect to their implications to whether mathematics can be considered an art.

## Friday, August 28, 2009 at 3pm in Bell Hall 143 The University of Texas at El Paso

Refreshments will be served in front of the colloquium room, 15 minutes before the start of the colloquium.

