



PROMYS 2013

“There is magic in mathematics, but this magic - like all magic - can be explained.”

- G. H. Stevens

I have always believed that mathematics provides the prism through which one understands the world, as well as a means to understand oneself and express one's feelings. Mathematicians experience the challenge of solving a problem fueled with the same excitement and anticipation as the members of a band, about to perform live, in front of a crowd for the first time.

Many people are misled to believe that mathematics is purely cerebral. The truth is, that the passion required to engage in the study of Maths comes from the heart.

During the summer program Promys that I had the opportunity to attend in 2013, I met many individuals who share my thoughts and feelings regarding numbers and their wonderfully mystical interactions. They did not approach Mathematics simply as a school subject, which they were forced to attend like most youngsters do. All participants felt that the program provided the map for a journey through the magnificent world of digits and pushed us beyond our limits, in order to discover new forks in the road, new ways to solve Mathematical problems.

But what made my summer in Boston University a once in a lifetime experience was the work of all academics, the time we spent solving the problems under their guidance, the light they so effortlessly shed on the dark corners of this science. I was further fascinated by the teamwork we all displayed while working on projects in our quest for correct, precise answers, which forged strong friendships.

What I learnt there, still lives within me and reignites my passion for learning more each and every day. It has helped me improve my performance at school, excel at national and international competitions and compelled me to set more difficult goals. As a high school student, going to the university of my choice is my primary goal. I am sure that the experience of attending Promys will remain forever instilled in me. I will draw on the lessons I learnt there whenever I need strength on my journey toward success.

I hope that everyone attending Promys or similar summer programs this year will be able to benefit greatly from them, much like I have. Although Mathematics can't add love, subtract hate or exponentially increase success in our lives, it does give each and every one of us a reason to hope that every problem has a solution, a solution which can be found through hard work and determination.

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