



**For Immediate Release  
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## **San Diego Math Students in the National Spotlight**

Two San Diego area math students have reached heights rarely seen. It's a world of numbers and diagrams and letters from diverse alphabets, of symbols strewn across blackboards in ways rarely seen by the public eye except in satirical cartoons. It's a world where acronyms string together like something from Dr. Seuss (Red MOP, Blue MOP, Black MOP, MOSP), belying the staggering intellects behind them. But most of all, it's a world of kids - really remarkable kids.

Robi Bhattacharjee, a tenth grader at Torrey Pines High School and Thomas Swayze, a ninth grader at Canyon Crest Academy have been selected to participate in the Math Olympiad Summer Program (MOSP), the elite national training camp from which the team is chosen to represent the United States in the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO). MOSP gathers together a few dozen of the most talented and most competitive math students in the country and gives them several weeks of intense instruction and continued competition under the direction of a staff of world leaders in competitive mathematics.

The path to MOSP has been a long one for both Bhattacharjee and Swayze. Both have been involved in competitive mathematics for years, but each year brings a new cycle of competitions and a new run for honors. For Bhattacharjee and Swayze, the path to MOSP began with the American Mathematics Competitions in February, followed by the American Invitational Mathematics Examination in March, culminating in the United States of America Mathematical Olympiad that led to their invitation to MOSP.

MOSP is both a competitive program designed to identify the most competitive handful of students for the US IMO team, but is also a development program designed to identify and groom students with potential to be the IMO candidates of the future. Accordingly, MOSP is divided into development groups with the quirky names Red MOP, Blue MOP and Black MOP. As first-time participants, Bhattacharjee and Swayze will be part of Red MOP where they will experience intensive training, competition, and guidance to help them continue to grow their talents.

The San Diego Math Circle ( [www.sdmathcircle.org](http://www.sdmathcircle.org) ) is a cooperative venture blending the volunteer and charitable efforts of parents, expert instructors, UCSD, the Art of Problem Solving, Inc., and is supported by private donations and corporate sponsors.