

# 2011 History of Mathematics Writing Contest Eligible: Any YCCD student registered in Spring, Summer, or Fall 2011.

# **Purpose**

To promote cross-disciplinary studies by encouraging students to investigate an area in the history of mathematics. Papers may concentrate on a single person or topic in the history of mathematics, or may be an historical survey of a topic or a school of thought in the history of mathematics; however, papers must contain some mathematics.

**What:** Five to eight pages, double spaced, in a 12point font; title in 18 point. Cover sheet with your name and contact information. Submit

a PDF file only.

Where: Submit the PDF file to John Thoo at Yuba College either on a CD (by campus or postal mail) or by email <ithoo@yccd.edu>.

Due: October 7, 2011

# Mathematical background

The history of mathematics is extremely wide and any student who has completed prealgebra or higher should be eligible to enter the contest. For topic ideas, take a look at the many books that the college library has in the history of mathematics subject area, or speak to a professor.

## **Judging**

Papers will be judged on the mechanics of writing (grammar, punctuation, &c.); the content (mathematical and historical); the historiography (good sources, &c.; WWW sources are not favored); and general readability. For a general style and citations guide, see Nicholas Higham, Handbook of Writing for the Mathematical Sciences, SIAM (1998), Yuba College Library and Clear Lake Campus Library call number 808.06651 H537.

## **Awards**

The first-place winner will receive a book prize. In addition, the first-, second-, and third-place winners will receive certificates of achievement and their papers will be published in Yuba Blue, the English Department's collection of writing contest winners. All entries will be posted online <a href="http://ms.yccd.edu/math/HomContest">http://ms.yccd.edu/math/HomContest</a>.