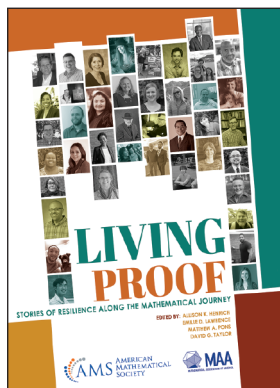




The AMS Book Program serves the mathematical community by publishing books that further mathematical research, awareness, education, and the profession while generating resources that support other Society programs and activities. As a professional society of mathematicians and one of the world's leading publishers of mathematical literature, we publish books that meet the highest standards for their content and production. Visit bookstore.ams.org to explore the entire collection of AMS titles.



Living Proof

Stories of Resilience Along the Mathematical Journey
 Edited by Allison K. Henrich,
 Emille D. Lawrence, Matthew A. Pons,
 and David G. Taylor

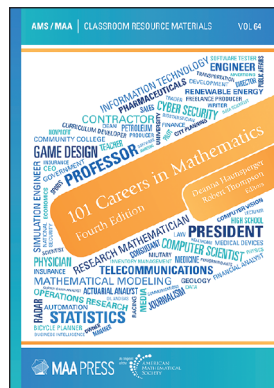
It is comforting to think that mathematics is a meritocracy. It is comforting to think that all those who love and can contribute to mathematics have a pathway to success. Thinking these things is comforting, but I believe it is mistaken. There

are social structures and traditions and obstacles in our community that impede too many potential mathematics students. The stories in *Living Proof: Stories of Resilience Along the Mathematical Journey* give stark testimony to that. Forty-one successful mathematicians—MAA presidents, a Fields Medalist, graduate students, full professors—relate first-person tales of struggle from their mathematical journeys. It is all too easy to imagine any, or all, of them being derailed by their experiences. It is all too easy to imagine the thousands of other mathematics students who were derailed by similar experiences.

The individual stories in this volume were collected so that they could serve as a source of inspiration and support for struggling students of mathematics. They will serve that purpose admirably. The stories celebrate the power of individual persistence and resilience. But the cumulative impact of the entire collection reveals powerful truths about the barriers to access in our community. There are profound insights contained here about the value of mentorship and support and simple human compassion. And there are lessons about particularly pernicious customs and practices in our culture. We should learn those lessons and acquire those insights.

The book is published as a cooperative venture of the AMS and the MAA. Freely downloadable pdfs of the entire collection are available at the websites of each society—just search for *Living Proof*. Print copies are available at the AMS bookstore: individual copies are priced modestly, and special bulk-order pricing is available to make wide distribution possible.

The AMS Bookshelf is prepared bimonthly by AMS Acquisitions Specialist for MAA Press titles Stephen Kennedy. His email address is skennedy@amsbooks.org.



101 Careers in Mathematics

Fourth Edition
 Edited by Deanna Haunsperger
 and Robert Thompson

Kate Brady is the senior bicycle planner for the city of Colorado Springs; she uses her mathematics BA to figure out how to make the city friendlier to cyclists and make the citizens more likely to ride. Christine Papai is the deputy country director of Innovations for Poverty Action in Ghana. Her MS in mathematics

enables her to evaluate the effectiveness of a variety of anti-poverty initiatives in the country. Laurel Paget-Seekins, with a BA in math and a PhD in civil engineering, is the director of strategic initiatives for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. She helps design and implement fare and service structures for the fifth largest public transit agency in the country.

A college mathematics professor is often asked, “What will I do with a math major?” The typical college professor’s own life experience is that he or she used his or her math degree to learn more math. This is not usually the answer the student is looking for. *101 Careers in Mathematics* will help that college professor provide an answer meaningful to the student asking the question. The book, in spite of the name, contains 125 short profiles of individuals who majored in mathematics and went on to build interesting lives and careers. There are, of course, many predictable outcomes: teachers, actuaries, college professors, quants, business analysts, and data scientists. But there is also a woman who founded a granola company, another who founded a video game company, a freelance Broadway producer, and a rear admiral in the US Navy. And there are a host of others in rewarding and interesting careers using mathematics to, as Kate Brady says of her job, “make the world a better place.”

We often tell our students they can do anything with a degree in mathematics. *101 Careers* provides vivid and compelling evidence that this is true. Every department common room and every professor who has ever been asked what one can do with a math major should have a copy available to share with students.