Lessons and Legacies: Stories of Creative Pedagogy

The NCTM 2025 Annual Meeting will focus on honoring mathematics educators’ historical and contemporary contributions to classrooms and communities. Join us as we elevate and celebrate the creative pedagogical practices that have transformed the teaching and learning of mathematics for each and every learner.

Advocating for All: Building Community for Collective Progress.
What comes to mind when you hear advocacy, community, and policy? How does advocacy, community and policy work together to create more equitable and inclusive mathematics learning for all? NCTM addresses all three areas in our work. All three areas can be broadly defined to be more effective. How do we advocate for equitable communities of mathematics in and out of school, and how can we use mathematics to advocate for change? How do communities engage in mathematics, and how can we use communal mathematics practices to build equitable mathematics communities of practice? How do policies impact mathematics education, and can we use mathematics to impact policy?

Assessing What Matters: Witnessing the Mathematical Brilliance of ALL Learners
Embark on a shared journey to explore dynamic assessment strategies intentionally designed to cultivate and embrace diversity, equity, and inclusion in the mathematics classroom. Sessions in this strand explore creative assessment practices that illuminate teachers’ beliefs in the brilliance of ALL learners and reveal how teachers challenge the status quo to empower learners from all backgrounds. The creative assessment strategies in this strand aim to instill in ALL learners a resilient mathematical mindset, fostering a culture of productive struggle and problem solving.

Broadening Worlds: Teaching with Technology in the Age of AI
When asked about the role of AI in mathematics teaching, ChatGPT indicated, “it’s essential to integrate AI technologies thoughtfully, ensuring that they complement and enhance, rather than replace, the role of educators in the teaching and learning process.” So, how can we use technology to enhance mathematics teaching and learning, to build community, and to meet students where they are? This strand explores how a variety of technologies, including AI, AR, VR, XR, makerspaces, and beyond, broaden our worlds, mathematics communities, and student-centered teaching practices. Sessions in this strand may focus on using technological tools to empower students’ agency and creativity in mathematics, best practices for teaching with technology, technology task design or assessment efforts, assistive technology and adaptive tools, or other innovative technology explorations. A focus on mathematics teaching with technology that amplifies students’ voices and identities and centers students’ conceptions in the learning process is encouraged.

Deep Content Knowledge/Mathematical Practices/Routines
Learning and accessing mathematical wisdom from the past allows students to understand and critique the world around them by reimagining their own mathematical futures. Sessions in this strand will blend deep content knowledge and culturally relevant mathematical practices, fostering an environment where students are empowered to be critical thinkers and problem solvers. Sessions may include, but are not limited to:

- Real-world, Historical, and Futuristic Mathematics Connections
- Mathematical Representations
- Storytelling as Pedagogy
- Honoring Students’ Ways of Reasoning
- Implementing a Framework for Culturally Relevant/Responsive/Sustaining Mathematics Teaching

Excluded to Included: Centering the Learning of Those in the Margins
The ease of teaching to “the middle” excludes those who are neurodivergent, multilingual, have different learning abilities, or use varying knowledge systems, deeming them invisible. By centering the learning of those traditionally marginalized and planning with all differences in mind, we create welcoming and affirming learning environments that meet the needs of all students. Sessions in this strand will focus on empowering teachers to be activists and agents for change and inclusion. Sessions should actively center diverse learning experiences and inclusive approaches to teaching mathematics that address the intersectional identities of learners, thus providing all learners with the tools and support needed to excel in mathematics.