UNFOLDING HUMANITY:
MATHEMATICS AT BURNING MAN

A two-ton interactive sculpture called Unfolding Humanity came to life at Burning Man 2018, the world's most influential large-scale sculpture showcase. Rising 12 feet tall with an 18-foot wingspan in the Nevada desert, the unfolding dodecahedron was illuminated by 16,000 LEDs, requiring 6500 person hours and $40,000 in funds. Its interior, large enough to hold 15 people, was fully lined with massive mirrors, alluding to a possible shape of our universe. The unfolding exterior points to the 500-year-old work of Albrecht Dürer, and the tantalizing open problem of discovering a geometric unfolding for every convex polyhedron. This talk outlines the journey of two mathematicians embracing the role of amateur sculpture artists.
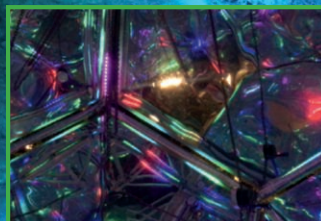
DIANE HOFFOSS

PUBLIC LECTURE

MONDAY
OCTOBER 21, 2019

5:30 - 6:30

PHYSICS BUILDING | ROOM 204

Organizers: Slava Krushkal and Sara Maloni (Mathematics)
Sponsored by: Institute of Mathematical Science (IMS), Department of Mathematics
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