

Undergraduate Colloquium in Mathematics
Wednesday, Jan 27th 3-4 PM
STV 401

Mathematics and Music
Sunil Chebolu, ISU

Mathematically speaking, what is music? Why are some combinations of notes pleasing to the ear, while others are not? What are some important problems in western music theory? Did you know that there is a nice combinatorial structure in the major scale? Did you ever hear the music of π ? How can we convert mathematical theorems into beautiful melodies? Did you know that the Fibonacci numbers were invented 200 years before Fibonacci when Sanskrit poets were studying rhythms? All these questions and more will be addressed in this presentation. No specialized background in math or music will be assumed.

