

The ODD TIMES

VOL.1 • NO. 1

LOOK CLOSER, THERE'S MATH IN EVERY ART.

A STUDENT
PUBLICATION
SEPTEMBER 2026

CAN YOU HEAR A FRACTION?

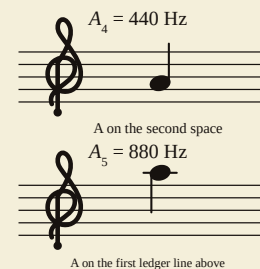
Why does an octave sound so strangely “right?”

Play an A at 440 Hz. Play the A above it at 880 Hz. The second sound wave vibrates exactly twice as fast:

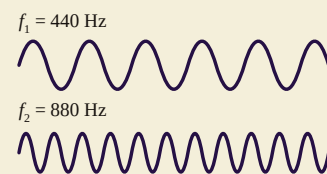
$$880 : 440 = 2 : 1$$

Our ears hear two different pitches—but also an unusually strong relationship between them. The octave isn't alone. Simple numerical relationships appear throughout musical intervals.

Are you listening to music or listening to mathematics?



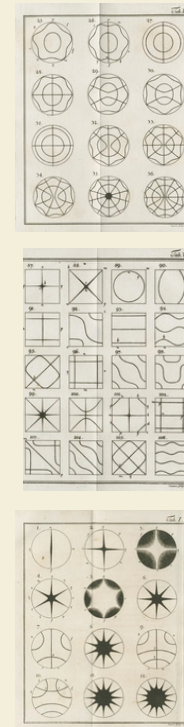
ONE OCTAVE=2:1



*Same note name.
One octave higher.
Twice the frequency*



Digital Art: *Enjoying Music* by Bella Huang



E.F.F. CHLADNI (1802)

Sound vibrations can create beautiful geometric patterns. These patterns appear when a plate vibrates at specific frequencies.

10-SECOND CHALLENGE

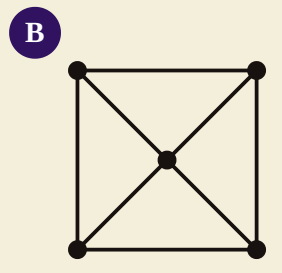
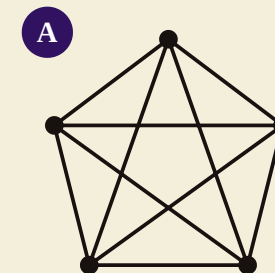


The One-Stroke Puzzle

Which graph can you draw in one continuous stroke?

Rules:

- Don't lift your pencil
- Don't retrace any line.



THINK YOU'VE GOT IT?

Scan for the answer

Solution + explanation at
TheOddTimes.org



YOUNG ARTISTS TALK MATH

Geometry in the Creative Process

Meet Bella, a young visual artist who finds geometry hiding in the creative process.

ODD Times: Do you think about math when you draw?

Bella: I don't usually think about arithmetic, but geometry overlaps with art. I start with basic shapes, then add details. Proportion and perspective create depth, while a flowing line guides the viewer's eyes.

[Read the full interview at TheOddTimes.org](#)



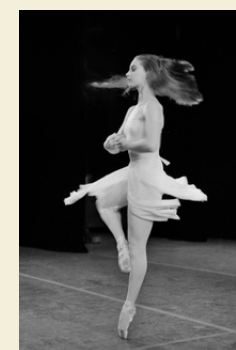
Marie-Denise Villers,
Young Woman Drawing (1801)

MATH BEHIND THE ARTS - DANCE

Why do pirouettes get faster?

A dancer pulls her arms inward and speeds up. Why? Pulling mass closer to the axis of rotation decreases moment of inertia. Because angular momentum is conserved, rotational speed increases.

Figure skaters use the same idea



Suzanne Farrell, 1965.
Photo: Ron Kroon/Anefo.

THE ODD CORNER

When Sound Draws a Picture

In the 1700s, physicist Ernst Chladni scattered sand across a metal plate and made the plate vibrate. The grains jumped away from the vibrating areas and gathered along still regions- forming astonishing geometric patterns. Today they're called Chladni figures.

Sound wasn't just something you could hear. Suddenly, you could see it.



Chladni plate illustration, 1879



WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

We're always looking for student contributors!



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