

Mae Holton

4/18/24

Math 115- Project Proposal

Prof. Long

“The Mobius Band”

Within Mathemalchemy is a world full of wonderful things. A beautiful world, full of interesting mathematics, is how I would describe Mathemalchemy. Mathemalchemy is a combined math and art installation that shows math concepts brought to life in a fun way. A team “of twenty-four mathematical artists and artistic mathematicians” (Mathemalchemy.org) used their expertise to create a traveling art piece and a fictional story to go along with it. As I look at this, I believe that it is already perfect, and everything comes together quite well. However, if I were to add one more thing, I propose a new act added into mathemalchemy, The Mobis Band.

When I first looked at this mind-boggling piece, I was overwhelmed and didn't understand what most of it meant. Ninety-nine percent of the concepts included in this exhibit were things I had never seen or heard before. Only later on in the semester did I slowly learn their applications and what they mean in their mathematical context. Who knew that the beautiful scenes and bright imagery depicted were highly calculated, complex mathematics.

When I was first tasked with this assignment, I was unsure of how I could make something related to Mathemalchemy. I eventually opted to propose something new, an addition to the installation but even then had no clue on where to start. How could I, someone not so math-oriented, add something creative yet mathematical? I scoured through the Mathemalchemy

website, looking at all the individual details and the people who worked on it, trying to figure out something that hasn't been done yet. I got to the knotal bay section of the piece which gave me the idea to play on words just like it. I thought about knots, then bands, and how bands could mean both a band like a rubber band and a band like a musical band. Finally, this led me to the idea of a marching band, walking infinitely along the Mobius band called The Mobius Band.

“Why a marching band?” you might ask. Well, I play the saxophone, and music has been a huge part of my life. Some of my most fond memories are of my high school marching band days. I was even a drum major, the person who conducts and leads the band. However, even though I am pursuing a career in painting, music holds a special place in my heart.

In conclusion, my proposal for a new addition to the Mathemalchemy project is “The Mobius Band,” a marching band led by a drum major, walking infinitely on the surface of a Mobius band. I created a drawing of this that allows my vision to come true.

