

# 2007 Kemeny Undergraduate Lecture

Prof. Richard Stanley

MIT

will speak on

## *A Survey of Plane Tilings*

Thursday, May 3, 2007

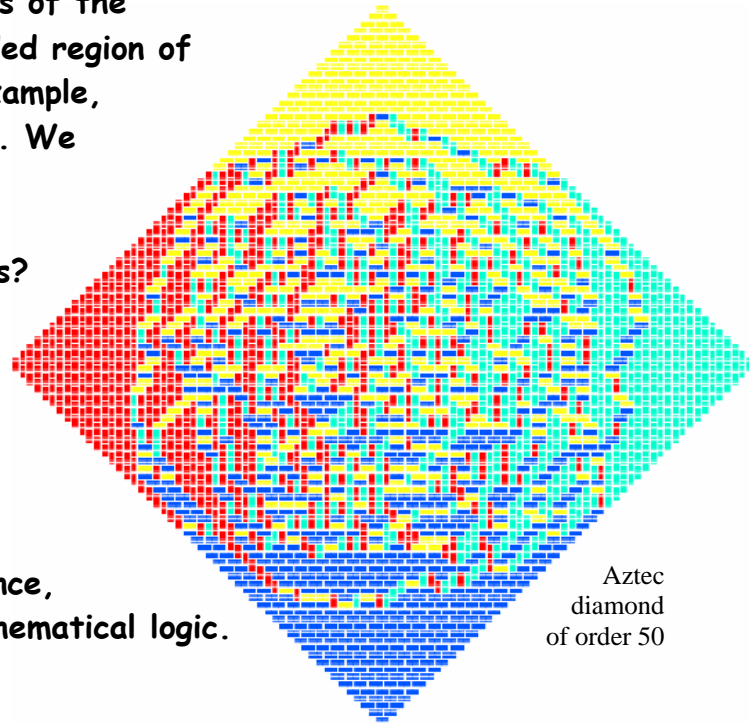
7:00 – 8:00 pm

008 Kemeny

**Abstract.** We will survey some of the highlights of the theory of plane tilings, focusing on tiling a bounded region of the plane with finitely many tiles. A standard example, though not very mathematical, is a jigsaw puzzle. We consider such questions as the following:

- ◆ Is there a tiling?
- ◆ Is there a formula for the number of tilings?
- ◆ If not, about how many tilings are there?
- ◆ Is a tiling easy to find?
- ◆ Is it easy to convince someone that a tiling doesn't exist?
- ◆ What does a typical tiling look like?

We point out some interesting connections between tilings and such topics as computer science, continued fractions, probability theory, and mathematical logic.



Aztec  
diamond  
of order 50

## Everybody Welcome!

For more information:

<http://www.math.dartmouth.edu/>

