A public lecture by
Dr. Evelyn Lamb
Monday, August 22
5pm
Savery Hall 260

Visualizing hyperbolic geometry

Dr. Evelyn Lamb earned her Ph.D. in mathematics at Rice University, and was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Utah. She blogs for Scientific American and writes for Slate and the American Mathematical Society.

For two thousand years, mathematicians tried to prove that Euclidean geometry, the geometry you probably learned in high school, was all there was. But it's not! In the early nineteenth century, János Bolyai and Nikolai Lobachevsky independently discovered that by tweaking one of Euclid's postulates, geometry can look totally different. We will explore the rich world of hyperbolic geometry, one of the new and beautiful systems of geometry that results from this tweak. Our guides on the adventure will be mathematically inspired artists and artistically inspired mathematicians, including M.C. Escher, Daina Taimina, and Henry Segerman.