



September 27, 2023

Honor Math Literacy Advocate Bob Moses with a Congressional Gold Medal

Robert Parris Moses (January 23, 1935 – July 25, 2021) was an American educator and civil rights activist. He was a primary mover of the Mississippi voting rights movement in the 1960s, founder of the Algebra Project, MacArthur Fellow, Harvard University Honorary Doctor of Science, recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Council of the Teachers of Mathematics, and inducted to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. These are just a few of the achievements and contributions that more than qualify Robert Moses for this honor.

He received a MacArthur Fellowship in 1982 and used this “genius grant” to launch the Algebra Project. In founding the Algebra Project, Moses stated that K–12 math literacy, like voting literacy, is key to full citizenship for Americans from poor and minority communities.

The Algebra Project is a nonprofit dedicated to helping students from historically marginalized communities develop math literacy skills, which Bob Moses viewed as the path to permanently improving their personal life circumstances, as well as the social and economic conditions of their communities.

The Algebra Project is one of few mathematics education initiatives to originate in the African-American community and—since its inception in 1982—has helped more than 40,000 students in hundreds of schools nationwide.

Bob Moses passed away on July 25, 2021.

Since the American Revolution, Congress has commissioned gold medals as its highest expression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions by individuals or institutions.

Please cosponsor H.R. 2831!

About the American Mathematical Society

Founded in 1888, the American Mathematical Society (AMS) is dedicated to advancing the interests of mathematical research and scholarship and connecting the diverse global mathematics community. The AMS has 30,000 individual members worldwide and supports mathematical scientists at every career stage.

Office of Government Relations

*Advocating at the federal level for
the mathematical sciences*

Contact

Dr. Karen Saxe
Director
Government Relations
American Mathematical Society
kxs@ams.org

Visit our website

www.ams.org/government

