



The Math Club and the Mu Alpha Theta Honor  
Society at Las Positas College proudly present

## A Child's Garden of Graphs

How a pinch of linear algebra, a smattering of graph theory,  
and a spoonful of computer science are dominating your life



Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>

6:00pm – 7:30pm

Building 2400, Room 2420

Please join us for a reception  
immediately preceding the talk  
in the 2420 Lobby

Van Emdon Henson, PhD

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

**Abstract:** How does *Google* decide the order to list search results? How does *Amazon* know how people who bought thingamajigs also order gizmos? How do *MapQuest* or *Google Maps* figure out the best route to go somewhere? How do *Facebook*, *Instagram*, and *Linked-In* figure out people you might want to “friend”? In this talk, Dr. Henson will describe how these questions might be answered using branches of mathematics such as graph theory and linear algebra. He will also mention the computations necessary to pull it off in a way accessible to a general audience.

**About the speaker:** Van Emdon Henson is a mathematician/computer scientist with the Center for Applied Scientific Computing at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. For the past seven years, he has concentrated on data science and network analysis, mostly using the tools of graph theory, linear algebra, and advanced computing. His recent efforts have been applied to problems in cyber defense, computer networks, communication networks, and malware detection and analysis.

Free and open to the public

Las Positas College

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