

1014-V1-1022      **Steven B. Zides\*** (zidessb@wofford.edu), 429 North Church St., Spartanburg, SC 29303.  
    *"Science-in-Theatre" and Arcadia.*

As enthusiastic instructors, we often try to instill in our students an interest in math and science that goes well beyond the classroom setting. To this end, we try to infuse our courses with multimedia resources that are both educational and entertaining. This role is often filled with films, such as "A Beautiful Mind", and television programs such as "The Simpsons". However, in recent years, another genre of popular culture has emerged as a powerful medium of scientific and mathematical expression. Known collectively as "Science-in-Theatre", plays such as "The Proof" and "Copenhagen" offer students an opportunity to see compelling characters engaged in mathematical and scientific pursuits. "Arcadia", written by Tom Stoppard, is considered one of the greatest works of the "Science-in-Theatre" genre. A complex play, which shifts back and forth in time, "Arcadia" is a satire that touches on topics such as chaos theory, determinism, entropy, iterated algorithms, and even Fermat's Last Theorem. In my presentation, I will discuss the mathematical and scientific aspects of "Arcadia" and how they were used in the context of our Theatre-Physics Learning Community at Wofford College. (Received September 26, 2005)