

1154-00-1581 **Francesca Bernardi*** (fbernardi@fsu.edu) and **Katrina Morgan**. *Communication, Representation, and Community: Entry Points to Advanced Mathematics*.

Students from underrepresented groups face numerous barriers of entry in STEM. Fostering a community of young people who are interested in Mathematics, but do not necessarily see themselves as possible Mathematicians, can help them feel welcome in the field and help build their confidence. Outreach programs aligning Science communication with Mathematics can be a point of entry for such students, who often find these events to be less intimidating than those focused exclusively on technical activities.

Incorporating communication aspects in outreach serves several purposes: It encourages the participation of non-traditional STEM students by building a community of young people passionate about Mathematics and communicating it to the public; it helps educate these students to become better Mathematicians, teaching them communication skills as well as challenging Math topics; and it shows them the importance of focusing on both aspects.

Experiences will be reported from Girls Talk Math, a free day camp for female and gender non-conforming high schoolers focused on Mathematics and media. Founded in 2016 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the camp has hosted more than 130 students. A sister camp at the University of Maryland at College Park was founded in 2018. (Received September 16, 2019)