

Stan Wagon, professor of mathematics at Macalester College, grew up in Montreal and obtained his PhD at Dartmouth College. His current mathematical interest is the use of computing to bring abstract concepts to life. He has written 11 books and 100 papers, and has appeared in Ripley's Believe It Or Not for his construction of a working square-wheeled bicycle. He has won several prizes for writing and shared the first-place prize in the SIAM 100-Digit Challenge. Other interests include ultramarathoning (founding editor of Ultrarunning magazine), ski mountaineering (led a group attempting a ski ascent of Mt Logan, Canada's highest peak at 19500 feet), and nordic ski racing (completed a 100-mile race), and competitive snow sculpture, where his team uses geometrical themes and has won three silver medals in international competition.