

# Information and Announcements

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## ICM 1998 and the Fields Medals

The most prestigious award for mathematics is the Fields Medal which is awarded once in four years to three or four young mathematicians for their outstanding contributions. They receive the medal during the International Congress of Mathematicians held once in four years.

In the most recent International Congress of Mathematicians held in Berlin, Germany during August 18–August 27, 1998, the following four mathematicians were awarded the Fields Medals:

**RICHARD E BORCHERDS** (Cambridge University; Kac–Moody algebras, automorphic forms).

**W TIMOTHY GOWERS** (Cambridge University; Banach space theory, combinatorics).

**MAXIM KONTSEVICH** (IHES Bures-sur-Yvette; mathematical physics, algebraic geometry and topology).

**CURTIS T McMULLEN** (Harvard University; complex dynamics, hyperbolic geometry).

A *Special Tribute* was paid to the British Mathematician **ANDREW J WILES** of Princeton University, and he was honoured with the *IMU Silver Plaque*. *Resonance* readers may remember that Andrew Wiles was the person who proved the centuries-old *Fermat's last theorem* (see *Resonance*, January 1996).

The *Nevanlinna Prize* was awarded to **PETER W SHOR** of AT & T Labs, Florham Park, New Jersey for his work on quantum computation and computational geometry. This prize has been awarded since 1983 for outstanding work in the field of theoretical computer science.

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**Please Note:** The article by L J Mordell which appeared in the 'Reflections' section of the September 1998 issue of *Resonance* originally appeared in the *American Mathematical Monthly*. Vol.77, pp.831–836, 1970.

