BRIDGES
Mathematical Connections
in Art, Music, and Science

Choosing Diagrams for the Book of Beautiful Mathematical Diagrams

Samuel S. Kutler E-mail: reltuk@comcast.net

First, the nature of the Book of Beautiful Mathematical Diagrams is explained. Then, the criteria for choosing these diagrams will be discussed, with examples on slides for each diagram mentioned.

Some of the criteria are simplicity, surprise, implications, revelations, harmonious relations, clarity, and even, in some cases, claims are made about why some of them were not discovered until the 20th century, in spite of their simplicity.

While these diagrams immediately capture the eye of the observer, their beauty usually lies not in the diagram alone, nor in the logos about the diagram, but in the combination of the two.

After the diagrams are displayed and explained, there will be further remarks on the criteria for choosing them.