

Important Math Figures of Hood College

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Leah Allen (1884 - 1973)

Leah Allen was born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1884. She studied at Brown University and then moved out to Mount Hamilton in California to work at Lick Observatory in 1908. She then earned her M.A. from Wellesley College in 1912. She was a big advocate for women's rights, and played a role in earning women the right to vote nationally in 1920. But on the side, Leah Allen loved mathematics and the unknown universe. Leah Allen began teaching astronomy at Hood College in 1928. Leah Allen taught for 28 years before retiring.



Figure : Leah Allen

Lillian Olive Brown (1868 - 1963)

Lillian Brown graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Dickinson College in 1908. Then she moved onto graduate work at Columbia University. Lillian Brown began teaching at Hood, and after 35 years, retired from being the Head of the Math, Physics, and Astronomy Department. In the year 1958, an award was given to a freshman math student for having the highest record of achievement in the introductory courses. But this award only lasted 30 years. In 1988 the final award was given named after Lillian Olive Brown.

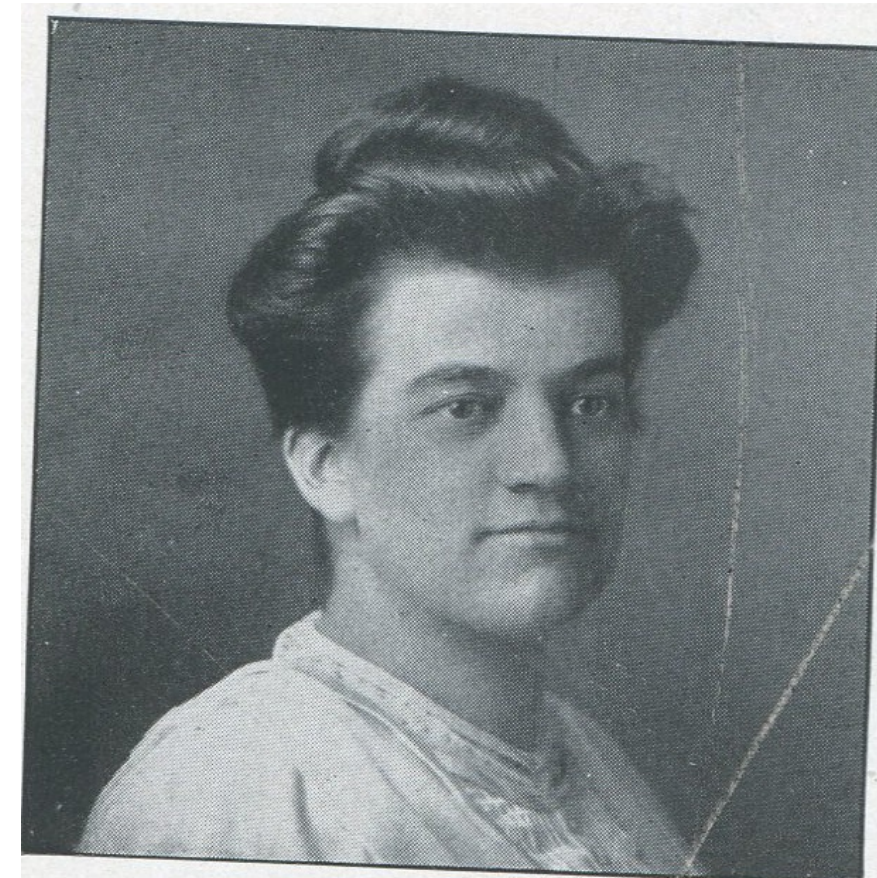


Figure : Lillian Olive Brown

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Hood College's Hodson Science and Technology Center



Figure : Hood College's Hodson Science and Technology Center

Grace N. Brown



Figure : Grace N. Brown

Grace Brown was a student who graduated from Hood College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics in 1927. After receiving her degree she worked in the registrar of Hood College from 1930 to 1967. She has a mathematical award named after her for students showing great insight interest, and achievement during the introductory calculus courses.

Julia Holzapfel Carhart

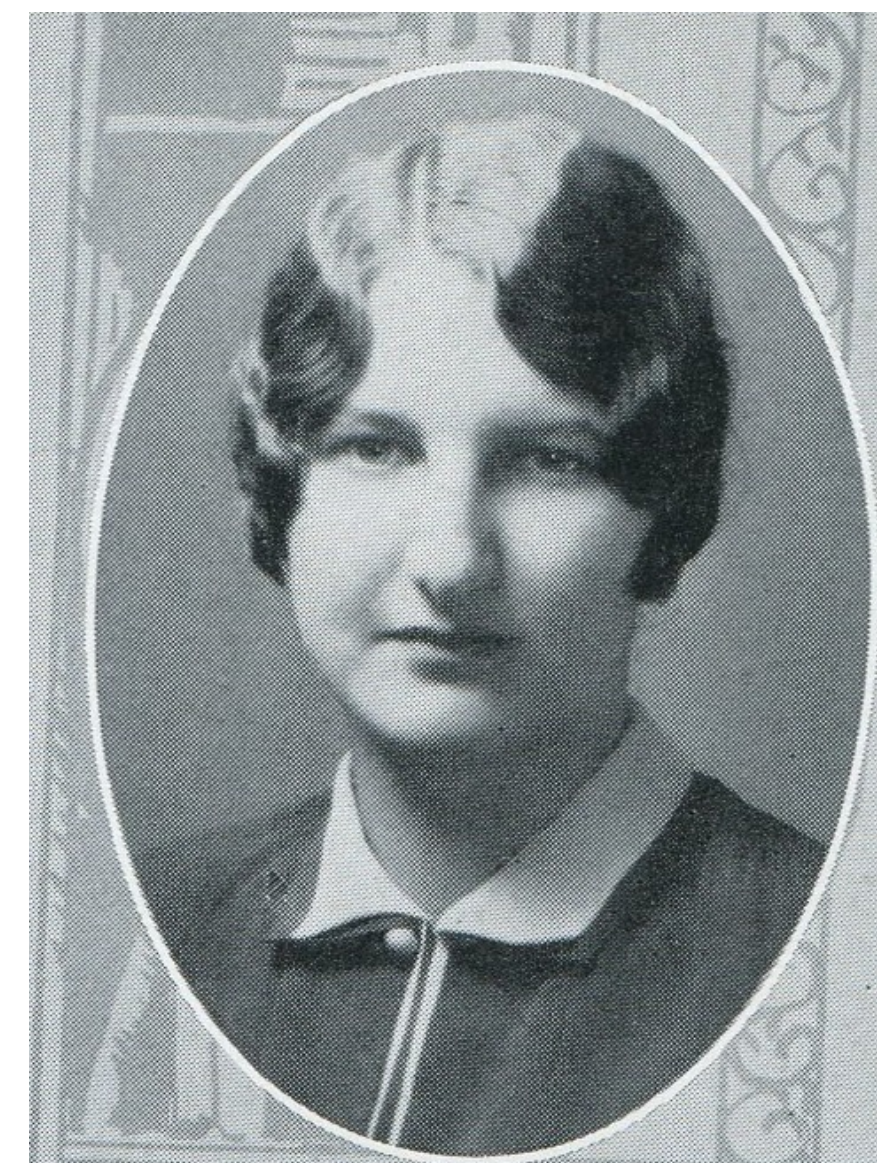


Figure : Julia Holzapfel Carhart

Julia holzapfel Carhart was a student at Hood College who graduated in 1930. She received her degree in mathematics, and then met her future husband, Homer W. Carhart. Both were advocates in education, and because of Julia Carhart, Homer Carhart was interested in Hood College, and giving back to the Hood community. Since then, Homer Carhart created the award named after Julia Carhart, given to juniors majoring in or displaying a strong interest in mathematics. Students "have demonstrated the highest academic distinction and promise, and also serve as role models, encouraging women to major in mathematics."

Grace Murray Hopper (1906 - 1992)

Grace Murray Hopper was born on December 9, 1906 in New York, New York. Hopper had interests in mathematics, and pursued it at Vassar College, where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa at the age of 22. From there she attended Yale University, where she received an MA degree in mathematics and physics in 1930 and a Ph.D. in mathematics in 1934. Since Hopper grew up in a family with much history being involved with the military, she joined the Navy Waves (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service) in 1943. From here she worked under Howard H. Aiken at Harvard's Bureau of Ordnance Computation Project. Here she inspired the term "computer bug" when she found a moth causing a malfunction in one of the computers. But Hopper continued to create a name for herself as she helped develop the Flow-matic, the first programming language to use English words. Because of her achievements in the computer science field, she was the first winner of the Data Processing Management Association's Man of the year award in 1969. By the end of Hopper's career, she was given the rank of rear admiral when she retired for the third time in 1986. She died on January 1, 1992 in Arlington, Virginia.



Figure : Grace Murray Hopper

"It is easier to get forgiveness than permission"

Lillian Brown (1868 - 1963)

Lillian Brown, or Lillian Brown Hodson was born in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Lillian Brown graduated from Agnes Scott College and Mt. Vernon Seminary. Lillian Brown became involved with Hood College after becoming Colonel Clarence Hodson's second wife in 1901. The couple became very interested in Hood College after they visited the college on a trip through Maryland in the 1920s. But in 1928, Colonel Hodson died, and Lillian Hodson carried on the relationship with Hood College along with her step daughter, Lelia Hodson Hynson. Lillian Hodson was appointed to the Hood College Board of Trustees in 1955, where she served on it until her death in 1963. The original Hodson Science Center was constructed in 1957 and was named in her honor. The Hodson Trust has given more than \$33 million to Hood College since 1936.



Figure : Lillian Brown