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**The “Kidumatica” project – for the promotion of talented students from underprivileged backgrounds.**

Paditz, Ludwig (ed.) et al., Proceedings of the 10th international conference “Models in Developing Mathematics Education”, Dresden, Saxony, Germany, September 11–17, 2009. Dresden: Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft (ISBN 83-919465-9-2). 23-27 (2009).

Summary: This article describes ‘Kidumatica’ – a highly successful project for the promotion of talented students from underprivileged backgrounds. In its 11 year run, Kidumatica has evolved into a way of life for its many students, allowing them opportunities to realize their potential, enter advanced academic studies, and successfully enter a society rich in knowledge and achievement. Kidumatica is based on academic research in the fields of excellence, cognition and mathematics education, and on the social principle of equal opportunity for all and one’s right to self-realization and aspiration, regardless of ethnic background and socio-economic status. Beyond these social/educational purposes, Kidumatica is also a research model and laboratory for testing new programs and teaching methods for gifted students. The following are the basic premises of the Kidumatica model, its goals and how they are achieved, including the recruitment of club members and the mathematical content.

*Classification:* C40 C60

*Keywords:* special education; gifted students; extracurricular activities