

## **Julia B. Robinson** (1919—1985)

Robinson missed two years of school as a child because of illness, and then completed four grades in a single year. She became a full professor of math at Berkeley after enduring years of gender-based employment discrimination. Robinson's research was in computability theory and complexity theory, and her papers convey advanced mathematical thinking to non-specialists. She was the first female

mathematician elected to the National Academy of Sciences (1975), and the first female president of the American Mathematical Society (1983—1984). A 1983 MacArthur "genius" Fellow, Robinson was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1985). The Julia Robinson Mathematics Festival, founded in 2007, was named in her honor.

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