



2018 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION:
Empowering people
through chess one move at a time.



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***Facing page:** US Chess Senior Digital Editor **Jennifer Shahade** conducted a Hula Chess exhibition, among other activities, as we partnered with the Dali Museum in St. Petersburg, Florida to highlight chess and introduce more people to the game. The March 2018 event is just one highlight from our Year in Review; please see more beginning on page 10.*

We gratefully thank the Saint Louis Chess Club for the use of many of the photos within this Annual Report.

GOALS

Expand the
depth and
breadth of
our chess
partnerships



US CHESS EXECUTIVE BOARD

The US Chess Federation (US Chess) is the official governing body and not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization for chess players and chess supporters in the United States. Our mission is to empower people through chess one move at a time. Our vision is to enrich the lives of all persons and communities through increasing the play, study, and appreciation of the game of chess.

US Chess represents the United States in the World Chess Federation (FIDE), connecting our members to chess players around the world. Founded in 1939 with the merger of the American Chess Federation and the National Chess Federation, US Chess has grown to serve over 94,000 members and 2,000 affiliated chess clubs and organizations today.

Every year, US Chess sanctions and rates over 10,000 tournaments and over half a million games. We host over 25 National Championships and award titles to both amateurs and professionals, ranging from elementary school students to senior citizens.

Front row, left to right: Lakshmana Viswanath, Mike Nietman, Chuck Unruh, Allen Priest. Back row, left to right: Mike Hoffpauir, Anjelina Belakovskaia, Hal Sprechman. Not pictured: Carol Meyer.



PRESIDENT

Michael Hoffpauir

US Chess
Attn: Mike Hoffpauir
PO Box 3967
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VICE PRESIDENT

Allen Priest

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VP FINANCE

Chuck Unruh

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Carol B. Meyer

US Chess
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PO Box 3967
Crossville, TN 38557
cmeyer@uschess.org

SECRETARY

Mike Nietman

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mike.nietman@charter.net

MEMBER AT LARGE

Anjelina Belakovskaia

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Ste. 120-118
Tucson, AZ 85750
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MEMBER AT LARGE

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Viswanath**

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MEMBER AT LARGE

Hal Sprechman

66 Cromwell Lane
Jackson, NJ 08527
halsprechman@gmail.com



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow US Chess Members,

I spent 27 years in the U.S. Army, which makes me a believer in putting the bottom-line up-front. So here it is: US Chess is in good financial shape due to the dedication and hard work of Vice President Allen Priest and Vice President of Finance Chuck Unruh, as well as our Executive Director Carol Meyer, who is doing a great job helping us evolve as a 501(c)(3) organization.

I begin by gratefully acknowledging the superb leadership Gary Walters provided as my predecessor. To paraphrase his own 2017 report to the delegates, Gary left the board a little better than when he joined it. Several seeds Gary planted, along with the ideas of some former and current board members, have taken firm root. For instance, we now use our January Executive Board meeting to focus on the strategic goals and budget for the coming fiscal year—it's an approach that sets the stage a full three-to-six months sooner than in past years. But I want our strategic and budget planning processes to grow beyond our current one-year cycle and evolve into a two- or three-year model. While any budget cycle always includes tactical opportunities that we create or take advantage of, we still need to think more moves ahead to bring longer-term consistency.

From a financial perspective, US Chess continues to improve due to increasing membership, solid tournament participation, and sound investing. Allen's CPA-skills, coupled with Chuck's eye for investments and detail, continue to benefit US Chess, providing a sound foundation that will allow us to continue to grow. I emphasize the words "continue to grow" because all of us need to understand that our evolution as a 501(c)(3) depends on having the funds available to support a broader set of activities than those we support today—e.g., supporting research to quantify the benefits of teaching chess to children, adults with Alzheimer's, and people recovering from traumatic brain injury.

This past winter we conducted a detailed review of our strategy. We began by reconsidering the US Chess mission and strategic goals established by previous Executive Boards, ultimately concluding that our mission and goals were sound. Next, we recognized that our stakeholders fall into three broad categories: Members and Affiliates, the Office, and what we dubbed "The Community." It's this third category where the Board sees many opportunities; it includes not just the non-members who enjoy the game (many of whom have never heard of us) and former members and affiliates, but it also embraces organizations and people whose strategic interests are similar to ours. With these three stakeholder groups in mind, we discussed ideas for dozens of initiatives that ultimately coalesced into nine over-arching objectives, each of which contributes to a varying degree to the goals of US Chess:

US Chess Objectives

- Offer programs that benefit the entire chess community
- Provide members with opportunities to improve and compete in rated events at club through national levels
- Provide integrated information to the chess community that promotes the legacy, current focus, and future direction of the game
- Establish and maintain business and governance practices that ensure compliance with 501(c)(3) and other legal requirements
- Offer competitive total compensation, growth opportunities, and current technologies to improve employee retention and productivity
- Establish partnerships with international federations to represent our players' interests in international forums
- Research, establish, and foster strategic partnerships with other organizations to further each other's missions
- Advance research to understand the benefits of chess
- Diversify revenue sources to support the US Chess mission

Looking to the future, I see abundant opportunity for us as a 501(c)(3). We will continue to embrace who we are today while we simultaneously explore new and exciting areas. To realize our organization's potential, we need continued help from people like you who give their all to our beloved game.

Let us continue working together.

Yours in chess,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael Hoffpauir". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" being more prominent and the last name "Hoffpauir" following in a similar style.

Michael Hoffpauir
US Chess President

“We will continue to embrace who we are today while we simultaneously explore new and exciting areas.”



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

"No matter where the game is played, US Chess welcomes all chess players to be part of our great federation."

Since joining US Chess in October 2017, I have had the pleasure of meeting many people who represent the best of US Chess from its past, present, and future. You have shared your concerns, your hopes, and your support for US Chess. In particular, I am grateful for the tremendous support I've received from the Executive Board, committee leaders, US Chess staff, and members who have reached out with suggestions and words of encouragement.

If there is a single word that sums up my first nine months at US Chess it would be excitement. I am excited about the potential for US Chess and all the changes that have been made to put us on a new path. Nine years ago, US Chess Delegates initiated changes to the structure of the organization that would allow it to grow in new and different ways. Four years ago, US Chess was awarded its 501(c)(3) status from the IRS. Both of these milestones are important markers for US Chess, its mission, and where we are heading.

Changing a tax status is a significant step for any organization. The privileges and responsibilities of being a charitable organization are immense and US Chess is at the beginning of realizing this potential. Change introduces unease while at the same time presents opportunity. US Chess is no exception to this and while we deal with uncertainty, we are hopeful about the rich opportunities before us.

We celebrate our storied past and remain loyal to it. We continue to support rated, competitive chess through national events and look to our member affiliates to provide individual members the opportunity to play. We also look forward to building a bigger tent that recognizes that there are many ways to enjoy the great game of chess. We are poised to embrace new generations of chess players and will focus our efforts to grow the game among girls, women, seniors, people with disabilities, and other underrepresented populations. No matter where the game is played, US Chess welcomes all chess players to be part of our great federation.

US Chess has faced many opportunities throughout its history, and each time we have emerged smarter and stronger. We are pushing boundaries that move us beyond our past successes, and together we can make US Chess more robust and welcoming to chess players from all walks.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol B. Meyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a stylized "M" at the end.

Carol B. Meyer
US Chess Executive Director



GOALS

**Increase chess opportunities
for under-represented
segments of society**



VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE'S REPORT

After many years in the role of Vice President of Finance, Allen Priest stepped aside last year to serve as the Vice President of US Chess. It is an honor and pleasure to follow in his footsteps. I have served on the Finance and Life Member Asset Committees for more than a decade. To stand on the shoulders of giants best describes my journey with the US Chess financial team.

The change in US Chess' financial position over time is still described as profound. I am glad to report US Chess enjoys a significant surplus for the fiscal 2017-18 year of approximately \$576K. Components of the surplus were driven by efficient operations and outstanding results in at-risk activities. "At risk" is the part of the mission that exposes US Chess to possible financial loss, as in a National Scholastic Event or in equity market investments. Current at-risk ratios are reasonable and backstopped by the Reserve Fund.

During the year, \$220K of the surplus was the result of budgeting for information technology upgrades and system renovations. Some of the budgeted funds were spent in the category of outside contract labor as our operations team starts the information technology upgrades. However, the bulk of the budgeted funds for the website and informational technology outside services roll into next year's results. At least another \$100K in savings was the result of unfilled staff positions. In the next fiscal year, savings from this year will start the process of refurbishing the Federation's core services, including filling the vacant staff positions. Hence, the upcoming 2018-19 budgeted surplus is very modest in comparison to fiscal 2017-18 results.

One number doesn't make a trend, but membership revenue is currently experiencing a 4% annual revenue rate of growth for 2017-18. Membership over the years has increased, yet membership revenue has held near steady since the second half of the 1990s. Some of the recent increase is in the adult category, a trend reversal welcome by many leaders concerned with the chronic decline in the membership category over the last two decades.

In 2013, US Chess created the Life Member Asset Trust, a 100% owned Grantor Trust. The new LMA Trust with 11 Trustees was given the mission to invest the replenished funds of the former Life Member Asset Committee (LMAC) for the purposes of reimbursing Life Member expenses. After the financial setback of US Chess in 1999-2000, many in leadership continued in a goal that rebuilt the Life Member Assets during some very difficult financial times. Today, the LMA Trust is in good standing and should meet its intended obligations into the future.

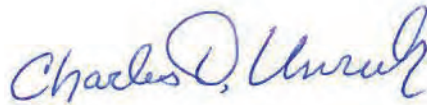
Another major financial change was the recent creation of a Reserve Fund. The Reserve Fund invests in a Sweep Bank Program with multiple banks under one Ameritrade account number. US Chess draws interest on the \$1.03M of rainy day funds. The Reserve Fund covers approximately four months of normal operational expenses. Financial leaders recommend additional

reserves equivalent to six months of operational expenses. The recommended goal is ongoing but a much lower priority than the core service upgrades.

At fiscal year-end, US Chess’ net assets stand at \$2,254,719. The graph below illustrates the remarkable recovery of US Chess’ financial strength. In five years, US Chess’ net assets have improved 52 times over. Outstanding results of this magnitude are truly team inspired and the work product of the many. Financial strength provides leadership with mission capability, sustainable far into the future.

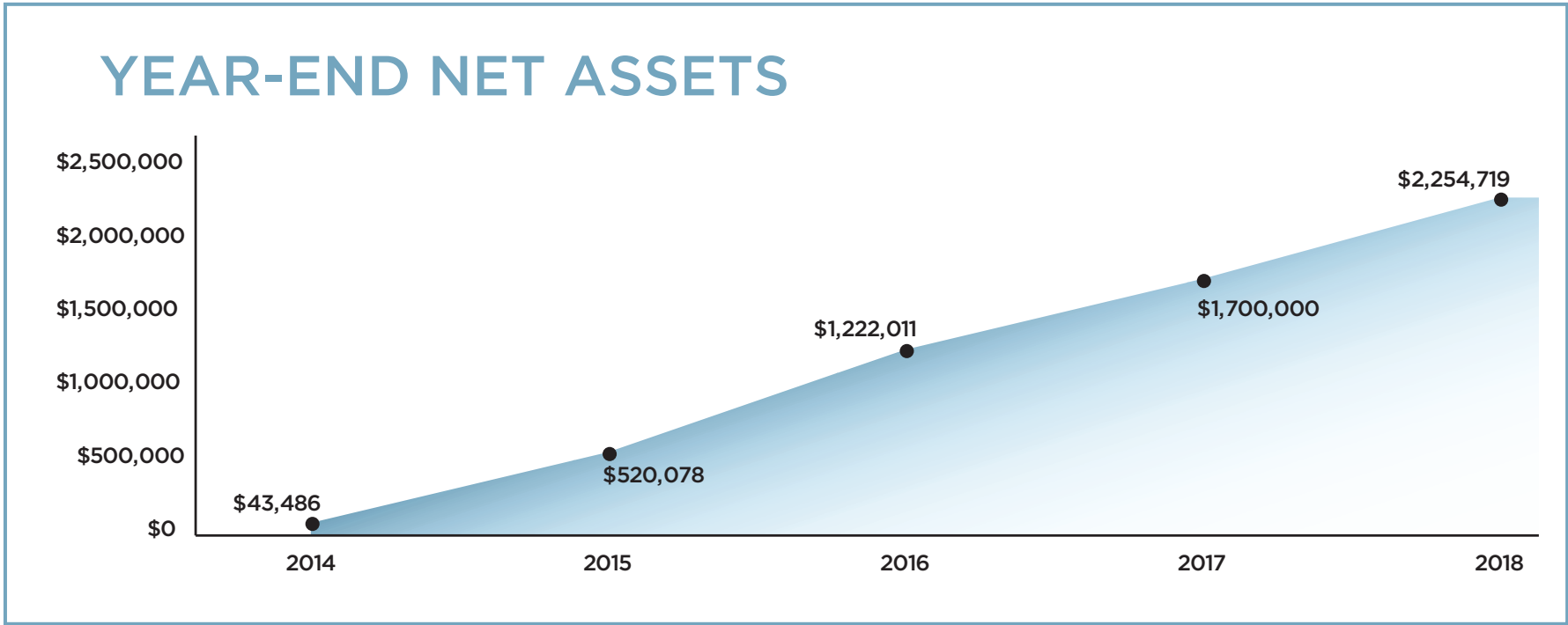
So, we stand on the shoulders of giants once again with renewed financial strength, remembering past at-risk activities that were the source of extraordinary financial growth and yet the root cause of the 1999 financial debacle. The financial team of Trustees, Executive Director, Executive Board, and Finance Committee have taken a conservative fiscal approach so as not to repeat the shortfalls learned from past experiences. In essence, US Chess leadership has

the task of the new tax status mission, and a goal that builds on the financial gains of the last two decades.



Chuck Unruh
US Chess Vice President of Finance

“Financial strength provides leadership with mission capability, sustainable far into the future.”



YEAR IN



FIDE World Junior Chess Championship for the Disabled
Finding strength with our moves.
Organized by:
The World Chess Federation (FIDE) Commission for the Disabled
June 22-29, 2017
Orlando, Florida
Organized by:
ChessAbility Foundation
Sponsored by:
The U.S. Chess Federation

FIDE World Junior Chess Championship for the Disabled
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THE FIRST FIDE WORLD JUNIOR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE DISABLED TAKES PLACE IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA.

JUNE 2017

REVIEW



FORMER WORLD
CHAMPION
GARRY KASPAROV
EMERGES FROM
RETIREMENT TO
COMPETE IN THE
ST. LOUIS RAPID
AND BLITZ, HIS
FIRST FORAY INTO
COMPETITIVE CHESS
SINCE 2005.



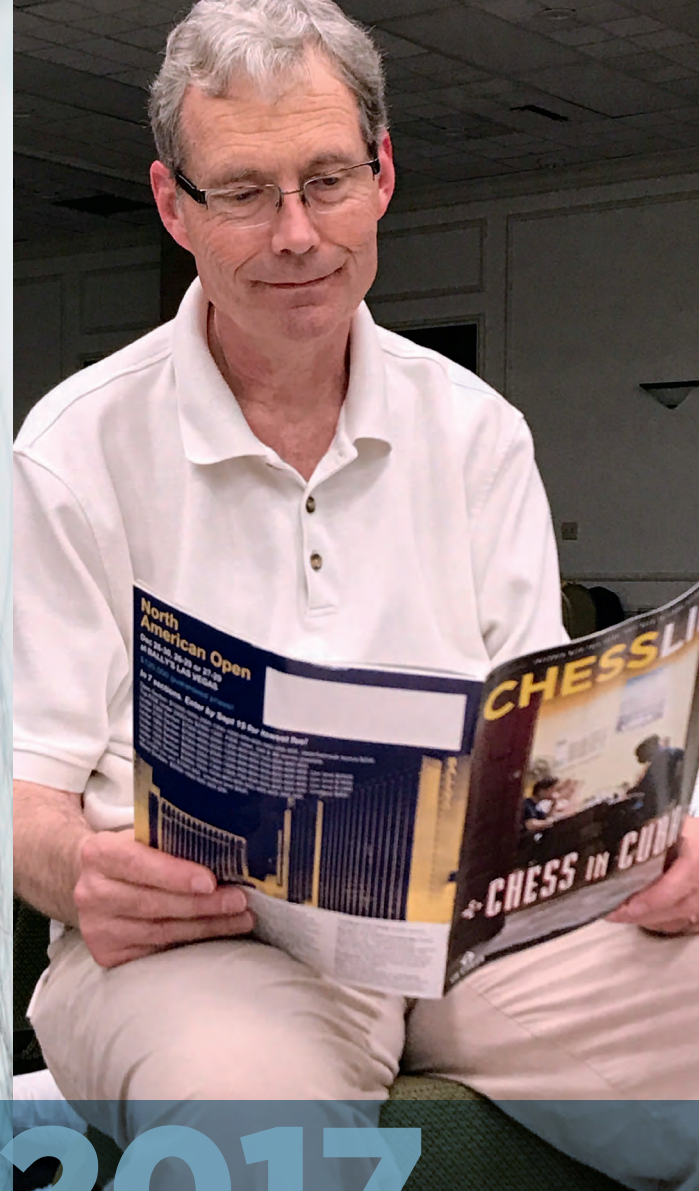
MAXIME VACHIER-LAGRAVE
OF FRANCE WINS THE
FIFTH EDITION OF THE
SINQUEFIELD CUP

AUGUST 2017



AUGUST 2017

AT THE WORLD CADETS IN BRAZIL, THREE AMERICAN YOUTHS WIN GOLD: AREN EMRIKIAN (OPEN UNDER 8; ABOVE LEFT), LIRAN ZHOU (OPEN, UNDER 10; TOP RIGHT), AND VINCENT TSAY (OPEN, UNDER 12; RIGHT).



SEPTEMBER 2017

WIM ANNIE WANG WINS GOLD AT THE WORLD YOUTH'S UNDER 16 GIRLS DIVISION IN URUGUAY

HURRICANE IRMA CAUSES MASS EVACUATIONS IN FLORIDA. *CHESS LIFE* HELPED ONE MEMBER PASS THE TIME IN A SHELTER IN WESLEY CHAPEL.



LEGENDARY
GRANDMASTER
WILLIAM LOMBARDY
(TOP, RIGHT) DIES
AT AGE 80.

NATIONAL CHESS
DAY IS HELD ON
OCTOBER 14, 2017

OCTOBER 2017




DECEMBER 2017

IM DORSA DERAKHSHANI (LEFT) WRITES AN EDITORIAL IN *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, "WHY I LEFT IRAN TO PLAY CHESS IN AMERICA."


MARCH 2018

THE EXHIBIT "RESPECT: HIP-HOP STYLE & WISDOM" OPENS AT THE OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA AND FEATURES CHESS AS ITS CENTERPIECE (ABOVE)



THE FIRST-EVER, ESPORTS-
STYLE CHESS EVENT IS HELD AS
THE PRO CHESS LEAGUE FINALS
TAKE PLACE IN SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA.

APRIL 2018



GM FABIANO CARUANA (LEFT)
WINS THE CANDIDATES
TOURNAMENT, BECOMING THE FIRST
AMERICAN TO CHALLENGE FOR THE
UNIFIED WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
TITLE SINCE BOBBY FISCHER IN 1972.



GM SAM SHANKLAND (FAR LEFT)
FINISHES OVER THREE WORLD-
TOP-TEN PLAYERS TO WIN HIS FIRST
U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP.

MAY 2018

AT OUR SPRING NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONSHIPS PLAYERS OFFER GOOD WISHES, WRITTEN ON GIANT POSTER CARDS, TO **FABIANO CARUANA**.



The 2018 National Elementary School Championship, Nashville, Tennessee

MAY 2018

CHARITY CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP IN NEW YORK CITY RAISES \$56,000 FOR OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH AND FEATURES **FABIANO CARUANA** AS A GUEST.

JULY 2018

2018 SAMFORD FELLOWS GMS **AWONDER LIANG** AND **SAMUEL SEVIAN** (BELOW) BEGIN THEIR TERMS.

GM PAL BENKO (RIGHT), WHO WON EIGHT U.S. OPENS, GAVE UP HIS SPOT IN THE 1970 INTERZONALS TO BOBBY FISCHER, AND WHO WROTE FOR *CHESS LIFE* FOR MORE THAN FOUR DECADES, TURNS 90.





GOALS

Continuously improve US Chess operations and member services

AWARDS



Gary Walters (OH)

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
RECOGNIZES SUSTAINED NATIONAL
SERVICE OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS.

Gary has served US Chess at the highest levels of leadership and was a stabilizing force during a time of profound change within the organization. Gary was an Executive Board member from 2010-2017, serving as Vice President from 2011-2015 and as President from 2015-2017. As a chess player, Gary was the 2009 U.S. Correspondence Chess Champion. Gary continues to serve US Chess as a member of the Bylaws and Clubs Committees. When not playing chess, Gary is a commercial litigator.

Dewain Barber (CA)

KOLTANOWSKI GOLD

THIS MEDAL IS FOR CHESS SPONSORSHIP INCLUDING RECOGNIZING DONORS TO CHESS.

KOLTANOWSKI SILVER

TWO SIGMA, RICHARD AND BARBARA SCHIFFRIN (PA)

OUTSTANDING CAREER ACHIEVEMENT

JIM NICKELL (WI), GUY HOFFMAN (WI), JIM EADE (CA)

SPECIAL SERVICES

RICHARD REICH (WI), EDUARDO BAUZA MERCERE (NY)

MERITORIOUS SERVICES

BRAD PHILLIPS (WI), FRED LANGE (WI), RANDY BUBOLZ (WI), JERRY NEUGARTEN (IL)

COMMITTEE OF THE YEAR

ACCESSIBILITY AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES COMMITTEE

CHESS CITY OF THE YEAR

CHARLOTTE, NC

Dewain Barber (below right in Kenya) has decades-long experience supporting chess in a myriad of forms. His chess resume is impressive—player, teacher, coach, equipment vendor, organizational leader, and tournament benefactor. He has been a member of the Southern California Chess Federation for more than 40 years, has served on many US Chess committees, and is a current Board Member of the US Chess Trust. His work in the chess community has been recognized in the following ways: Scholastic Service, Special Services, Volunteer of the Year, Meritorious Service Award, Teacher of the Year in Buena Park, CA school district, and Chess Tutors Award for Service to the community.





Elizabeth Shaughnessy (CA)

SCHOLASTIC SERVICE (INDIVIDUAL)

As Founder and President of The Berkeley Chess School (BCS), Elizabeth led the transformation of a small, after-school enrichment program to a thriving nonprofit organization with a budget of over one million dollars. Today, The Berkeley Chess School serves more than 7,000 school children at 150 locations in the greater Bay Area annually. The vision of the BCS has never been about producing masters, though that often happens as a byproduct. The mission of The BCS is to help all children, especially those struggling with learning inequalities, reach their full academic potential. In 1996, Elizabeth initiated BCS' Chess Outreach Program: struggling students in poorly resourced Title 1 schools would receive free chess lessons as part of regular classroom instruction. Women and girls are still severely underrepresented in chess and expanding opportunities for girls has been a major priority, as well as opportunities for seniors.

The Berkeley Chess School organized the first Cal Chess Women's State Championship, the first Cal Chess Girls' Age Level State Championship, and the first Cal Chess Senior State Championship and continues to run these popular tournaments. Elizabeth has many years of service on the Scholastic Council and the Women's Committee of US Chess. She served on the Executive Board of US Chess and as President of Cal Chess from 2002 -2005.

Viktors Pupols (WA), Franc Guadalupe (TX)

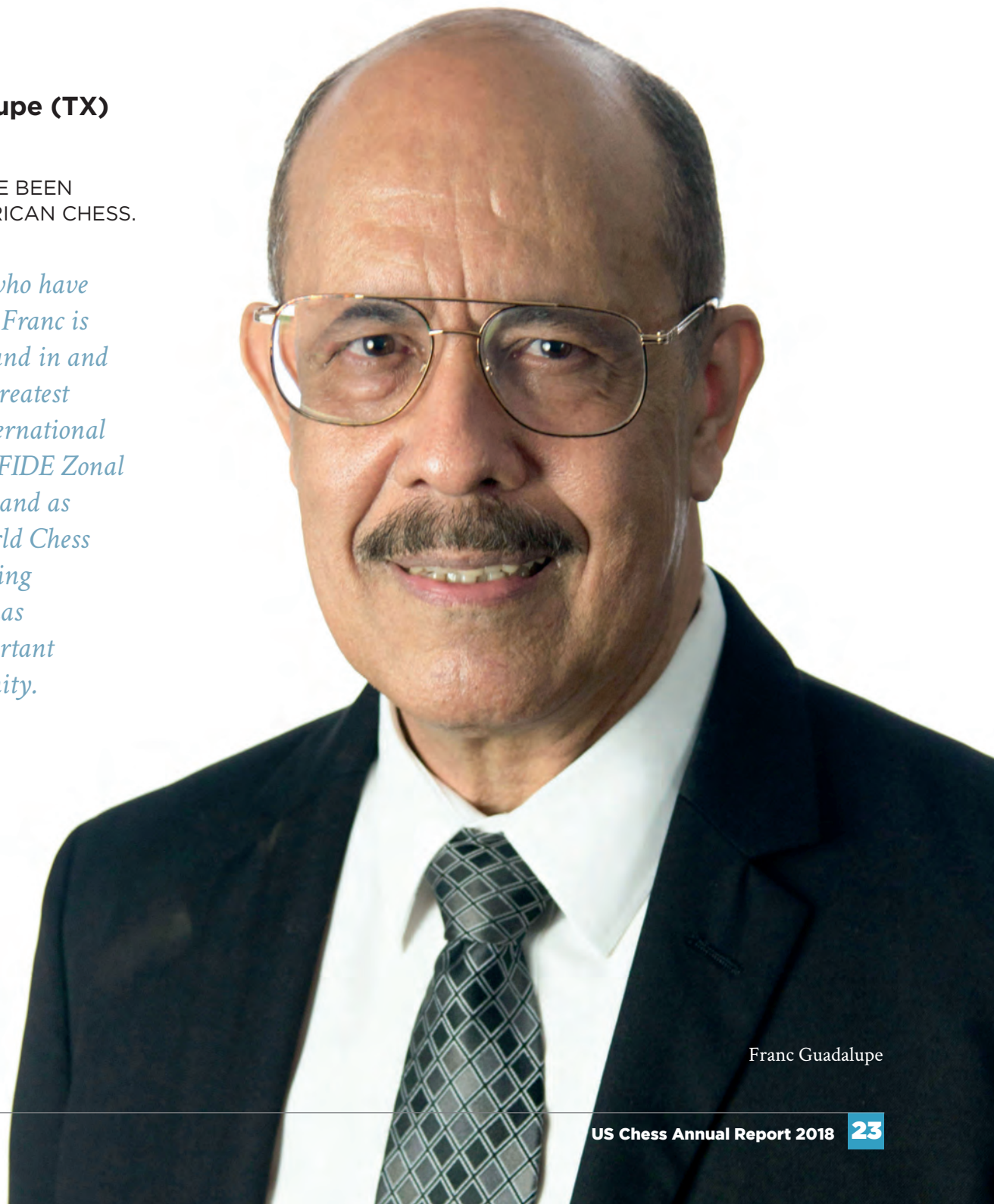
FRANK J. MARSHALL

THIS AWARD IS GIVEN TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN AMBASSADORS FOR CHESS AND FOR AMERICAN CHESS.

US Chess has many ambassadors but few who have played as many roles as Franc Guadalupe. Franc is our go-to guy when we need someone to stand in and he always follows through for us. Franc's greatest contributions, perhaps, have been as an international ambassador for US Chess. Franc served as FIDE Zonal President, Zone 2.1 – USA from 2010-2016 and as the Deputy Chief Arbiter for the 2016 World Chess Championship in New York. Franc's outgoing personality and ability to get things done has helped the U.S. develop and maintain important relationships throughout the chess community.

ORGANIZER OF THE YEAR

SOPHIA ROHDE (NY), GLENN PANNER (IL)



Franc Guadalupe

GM Fabiano Caruana (MO)

**GRANDMASTER
OF THE YEAR**

Fabiano learned to play chess at an after-school program when he was five and became the youngest grandmaster in U.S. history when he was 14. He is a Gold Medalist from the 2016 Olympiad and is a member of this year's Olympiad Team. He is currently ranked #2 in the world. Earlier this year, Caruana won the Candidates Tournament in Berlin, Germany, earning the right to be challenger to World Champion Magnus Carlsen later this year and becoming the first American since Fischer to play for the unified world chess championship.



University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley

CHESS COLLEGE OF THE YEAR

HONORARY CHESS MATE

BONNIE GUADALUPE (TX),
EDITH JUST (IL)

CHESS CLUB OF THE YEAR

BAY AREA CHESS, INC. (CA)



University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley won the 2017 PanAms, which qualified them to play in the President's Cup (aka College Chess Final Four), the event that determines the national college chess team champion. UT-RGV's ultimate victory at the 2018 President's Cup unseated Webster University's unprecedented reign as the top college chess team in the country.

Chris Bird (MA)

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

Chris learned chess at age seven when his sister taught him to play on a homemade chess set made of an old cereal box, colored with his sister's eyeliner, with little squares of paper with letters for chess pieces. As a player, Chris won the Minor Section of the 1991 Scarborough Congress in the United Kingdom. He transitioned into tournament directing in 2002 so he could run more local events in his community and has not looked back. Chris' most recent major achievement was chief tournament director (TD) of the largest SuperNationals ever. This is a high point in a career that in previous years has seen Chris as chief TD of the National Open, U.S. Championship, National Jr. High, and the Sinquefeld Cup.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

ERV SEDLOCK (FL)

OUTSTANDING PLAYER ACHIEVEMENT

ANDREW KARKLINS (IL), GM TIMUR GAREYEV (KS)

OUTSTANDING TEAM PERFORMANCE

2017 U.S. WORLD CADET TEAM





WGM Sabina Foisor (NC)

WOMAN CHESSPLAYER OF THE YEAR

Sabina Foisor captured the hearts of the chess community last year when she won the U.S. Women's Chess Championship shortly after the unexpected loss of her mother. Sabina, who learned chess from her parents at age four, displayed unwavering determination to honor her mother in such a poignant fashion. Sabina is a member of the U.S. Women's Olympiad Team for 2018 and is a keen supporter of girls and women in chess. She regularly supports US Chess activities with appearances at national and regional events.

Flynn Sign Co., Inc. (TN)

SPECIAL FRIEND OF US CHESS

Crossville, Tennessee's Flynn Sign Company has been promoting chess all over the city. With two towering billboards along Interstate 40 proclaiming Crossville as the "Home of the US Chess Federation" and other digital signs espousing the virtues of playing chess, Tom Flynn has been a leader in promoting the game in US Chess' hometown.



Michael Lenox (IL), Michael Aigner (CA)

ACCESSIBILITY AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES PERSON OF THE YEAR

Michael "F-pawn" Aigner was born with quadrilateral phocomelia and is best known for his abilities in chess and life. He is a math and engineering graduate of Stanford University, a US Chess Life Master, and has been coaching chess since 2002, with several of his students becoming champions. Michael is a member of both the US Chess Accessibility and Special Circumstances Committee and of the College Chess Committee. He is an adaptable, "access-enabled" person who has empowered others by his leadership.



Michael Aigner

A wooden chessboard with a checkered pattern of light and dark squares is the central focus. It is surrounded by a large, dense pile of white, long-grained rice. Several small clusters and individual grains of rice are scattered across the chessboard's squares, particularly on the light-colored ones. The lighting is warm, highlighting the texture of the wood and the grain of the rice.

GOALS

GROW THE GAME

NATIONAL



“I have dreamt of being U.S. champion ever since I was a kid. Winning the title represents that dream coming true.”

Samuel Shankland

U.S. CHAMPION

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI • APRIL 2018

CHAMPIONS

“Being a two-time national champion has made all the years sacrificed to chess absolutely worth it.”

Nazi Paikidze

U.S. WOMEN'S CHAMPION

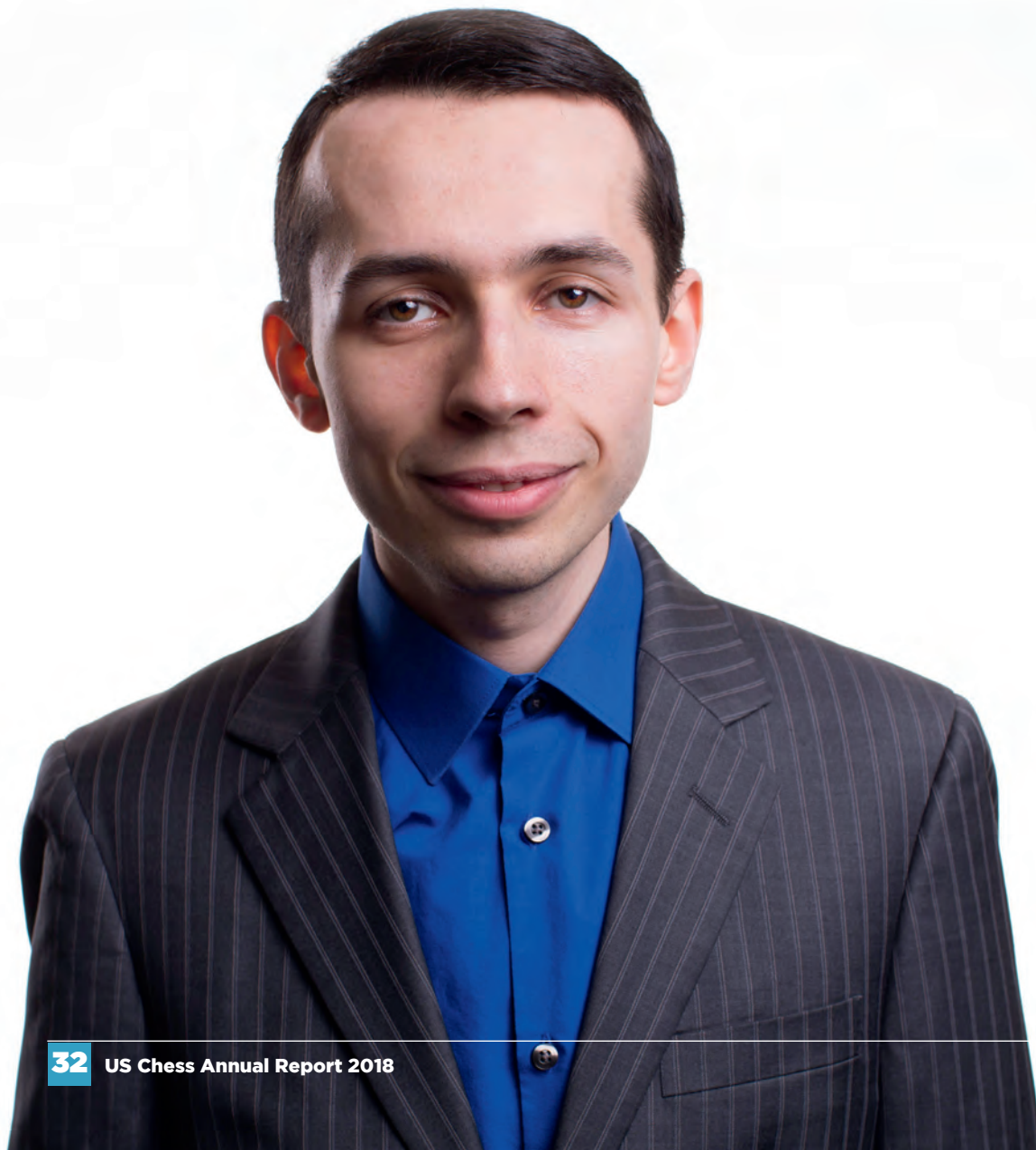
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI • APRIL 2018



U.S. OPEN

Aleksandr Lenderman (BELOW)

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA • JULY-AUGUST 2017



NATIONAL OPEN

EDMONDSON CUP WINNER

Ioan-Cristian Chirila (RIGHT)

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA • JUNE 2018



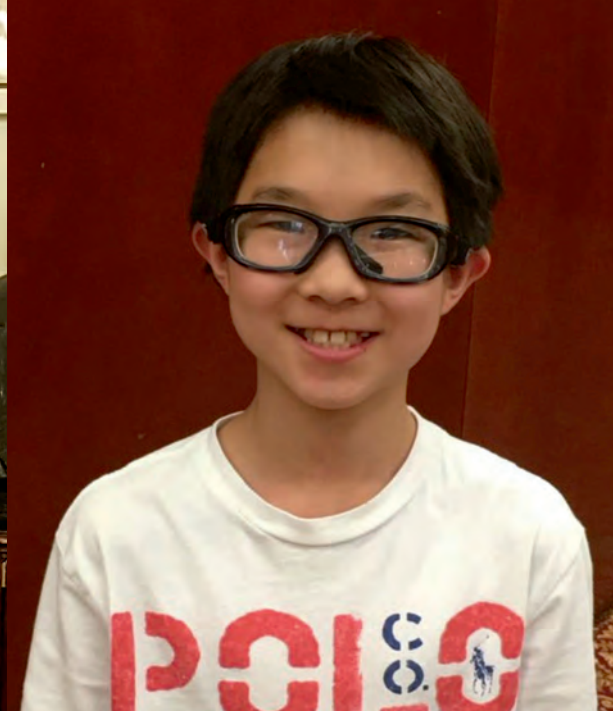


ARMED FORCES (INDIVIDUAL* TEAM)

Leroy Hill, Jr. (TOP LEFT), **Chase Watters** (TOP MIDDLE); **Navy** (LEFT)
WEST POINT, NEW YORK • OCTOBER 2017

U.S. SENIOR OPEN

Alex Yermolinsky (ABOVE)
NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA • JULY 2017



U.S. CLASS

M: Jeffery Xiong, Ruifeng Li;
X: Ju Hyung Ahn, Peter Peng, Alaa-Addin Moussa, William G. Fan; **A:** James Eryk Hargrove; **B:** Benjamin Yang; **C:** Minh Binh Tran; **D:** Xueyi Chen; **E:** Afaf Bouardi;
Unrated: Cameron Robert Braun
 HOUSTON, TEXAS • NOVEMBER-2017

U.S. BLIND

James R. Thoun
 LINDSBORG, KANSAS • SEPTEMBER 2017

U.S. GAME/15

Alex Wang (OPPOSITE PAGE, LOWER LEFT),
Justin Sun Liang (LEFT)
 NORFOLK, VIRGINIA • AUGUST 2017

U.S. GAME/30

Ray Robson (LEFT),
Daniel A. Naroditsky
 SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA •
 SEPTEMBER 2017

U.S. GAME/60

Ray Robson, Zviad Izoria, Alex Shimanov, Timur Gareyev (FAR LEFT),
Melikset Khachiyan
 SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA •
 SEPTEMBER 2017



ARNOLD DENKER TOURNAMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONS

Praveen Balakrishnan, Edward Song, Bryce Tiglon (LEFT), Zhaozhi [George] Li
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA • JULY-AUGUST 2017

U.S. GIRL'S JUNIOR CHAMPION

Akshita Gorti (BELOW)
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI • JULY 2017

U.S. AMATEUR CHAMPIONS

East: Shaun Smith
North: Ashton Jin
South: To be held in August 2018
West: Andrew Flores
MAY 2018



U.S. AMATEUR TEAM

East: Carnegie Mellon (Ryan Christianson, Beilin Li, David Itkin, Grant Xu); North: Wisconsin Chess Academy (Kevin Li, Alex Betaneli, Erik Santarius, Hersh Singh); South: Moon's Baboons (Benjamin Moon, Carter Peatman, Jonathan Hrach, Vishal Balyan); West: Pending review
FEBRUARY 2018



U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

Saikhanchimeg Tsogtsaikhan

(FAR RIGHT)

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA • JUNE 2018

NATIONAL GIRLS TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

Rochelle Wu (TOP LEFT)

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA • JULY-AUGUST 2017

SUSAN POLGAR NATIONAL INVITATIONAL FOR GIRLS

Nastassja Matus

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI • JULY 2017

BARBER TOURNAMENT OF K-8 CHAMPIONS

Christopher Shen (LOWER RIGHT),

Justin Wang (LOWER LEFT)

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA • JULY-AUGUST 2017

U.S. JUNIOR INVITATIONAL

Awonder Liang (MIDDLE RIGHT)

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI • JULY 2017



NATIONAL ELEMENTARY

K-6: Nathaniel Shulman (TOP, SECOND FROM LEFT), Kevin Pan, Rithik Sai Polavaram (TOP, THIRD FROM LEFT), Rianne Ke;
K-5: Nico Chasin;
K-3: Ronen Wilson (LOWER RIGHT);
K-1: Rohan Rajaram (TOP LEFT)
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE • MAY 2018

NATIONAL JUNIOR HIGH

K-9: Arthur Guo (LOWER MIDDLE);
K-8: Winston Ni (FAR RIGHT, TOP)
ATLANTA, GEORGIA • MAY 2018

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

David Peng (LOWER LEFT)
COLUMBUS, OHIO • APRIL 2018

NATIONAL ELEMENTARY TEAM

K-6: The Speyer Legacy School (NY), The Dalton School (NY), Mission San Jose Elementary (CA);
K-5: P.S. 41 (NY), Mission San Jose Elementary (CA);
K-3: The Dalton School (NY);
K-1: Mission San Jose Elementary (CA)
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE • MAY 2018

NATIONAL JUNIOR HIGH TEAM

K-9: I.S. 318 (NY);
K-8: Princeton Day School (NJ)
ATLANTA, GEORGIA • MAY 2018

NATIONAL JUNIOR CONGRESS

6 & Under: Rohan Rajaram; **8 & Under:** Nitish Nath; **10 & Under:** Advait Vijayakumar; **12 & Under:** Jaisuraj Kaleeswaran, Hersh Singh; **14 & Under:** Akshar Aiyer; **16 & Under:** Kireeti Devarakonda; **18 & Under:** Steven Y. Hwang
LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA • JANUARY 2017

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TEAM

Thomas Jefferson High School (VA), Whitney Young High School (IL)
COLUMBUS, OHIO • APRIL 2018

NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC K-12

K: Jack Judy; **1st:** Andrew Jiang; **2nd:** Yuvraj Rudra Chennareddy, Maya Figelman; **3rd:** Ronen Wilson, Erick Zhao, Spencer Chin; **4th:** Liam Henry Putnam; **5th:** Eddy Tian; **6th:** Maximillian Lu; **7th:** Logan Wu; **8th:** Andy Huang; **9th:** Justin Chen; **10th:** Max Jiahua Li; **11th:** Matthew James Stevens; **12th:** Daniel Josef Cremisi, John Gabriel Ludwig
ORLANDO, FLORIDA • DECEMBER 2017

NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC K-12 TEAM

K: Oak Hall (FL); **1st:** Collegiate School (NY); **2nd:** Collegiate School (NY), Oak Hall (FL); **3rd:** The Dalton School (NY); **4th:** Oak Hall (FL); **5th:** P.S. 41 (NY); **6th:** Dalton (NY); **7th:** Hunter College Campus School (NY); **8th:** David Drive Middle (NC); **9th:** Stuyvesant High School (NY); **10th:** South Miami Senior High School (FL); **11th:** Whitney Young High School (IL); **12th:** Christian Brothers Academy (NJ)
ORLANDO, FLORIDA • DECEMBER 2017

U.S. JUNIOR OPEN

Under 21: Alex Bian (BOTTOM ROW, THIRD FROM LEFT);
Under 15: Anthony Liu, Samarth Ram;
Under 11: Roshen Sanjay Nair, Gauri Menon, Isaac Traynor; **Under 8:** Ritesh Eswar
NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA • JULY 2017

U.S. CADET

Ben Li, Carissa Yip
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE • AUGUST 2017

(SEE PAGE 38 FOR PHOTOS)



GOALS

Inform and engage the educational community about the benefits of chess



A group of diverse children and a woman are smiling and posing for a photo. In the foreground, a chessboard with various pieces is visible. The woman is in the center, resting her chin on her hand. The children are of various ethnicities and ages, some wearing headbands and necklaces. The background is slightly blurred, showing a window with blinds.

VISION

Our vision is to enrich the lives of all persons and communities through increasing the play, study, and appreciation of the game of chess.

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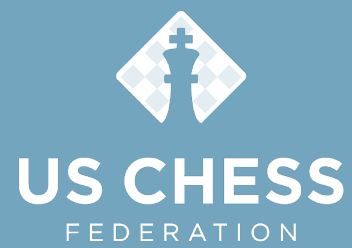
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