



KASPAROV
CHESS FOUNDATION

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ADRIATIC



Photo by Lennart Ootes

June 25th was a real chess holiday, with a total of 196 participants attending the youth festival, and everyone received a chess set with the inscription of the Garry Kasparov Adriatic Fund as a gift.

Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic also joined the chess players at the youth side event of the Grand Chess Tour

Another accompanying event was held in Crikvenica on the 2nd of July, where the unique chess beach was ceremoniously opened! In addition to the mayor of Crikvenica, Damir Rukavina, the act was magnified by the tireless Garry Kasparov and GM Maurice Ashley.



On the next day, Garry played a simultaneous match against 15 talented cadets. Five won their place on the simul through their placement at a cadet event, the rest were local talents.



The 16th Annual Kasparov Chess Foundation All Girls Nationals attracted nearly 400 young women from all over the country. The event was held in Chicago, Illinois from April 12-14, in a collaboration between the KCF, Renaissance Knights Foundation and the US Chess Federation, especially the US Chess Women's Commission. A notable winner was young 9 year-old Alice Lee of Minnesota, who played way up to win the Under 18



section. Aria Hoesley took down the Under 16, Sophie Tien won the Under 14 and Iris Mou prevailed in the Under 12. Riya Kanury tied with Mary Elisabeth Tracy in the Under 10 and Alexandra Phung scored a perfect 6-0 in the Under 8.



“I came here to fight the chess wards!” was young Keyla Acevedo Hernandez's battle cry. Only seven years of age, she was coached by Sarina Motwani (pictured left). Sarina is a High School student at Spence School, New York, and used to participate as a player, and now has the role of mentor to this little warrior from Bronx, New York.

“The KCF All Girl’s Nationals fosters an environment where girls from all ages and backgrounds can thrive. Girls with a passion for chess can come together and forge friendships. Keyla’s first girl’s nationals experience was filled with smiles, new friends, and success.” wrote Sarina Motwani.

Both Sarina and Keyla are an inspiration to upcoming players, and show the power that chess has in bringing people together.

Left Photo courtesy of CLO, playing hall picture by He Shoots Lyfe

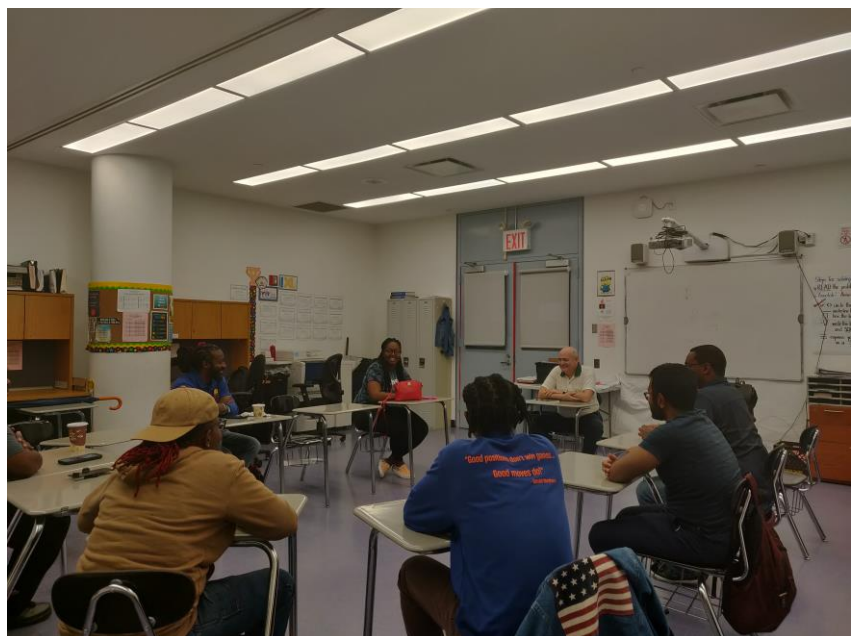


A big part of the Kasparov Chess Foundation's goals is to give back to the community. Our projects with chess in the schools, and specially our cooperation with the Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) is one of the more rewarding ones. On June 19th KCF President and FIDE Senior Trainer Michael Khodarkovsky conducted the annual workshop for chess coaches at HCZ. It is traditionally scheduled upon conclusion of the school year and before the start of all the HCZ summer camp programs.

A true telltale of the success of the program is in the returning alumni! In the above photo, Christina (next to Michael Khodarkovsky, with cap in hand) and Ruel (second on the right) are alumni of the program and now they are working as chess instructors, sharing their knowledge with the new generation of HCZ students. In the portrait above we see Geoffery Canada, founder of the Harlem Children's Zone.

The Harlem Children's Zone, established in the 1990s, has been driven by the belief that the success of our children and the strength of the community go hand in hand. Their needs are inseparable and must be addressed together in order to break the cycle of generational poverty and give our kids a real shot at the American dream. They offer a multitude of programs and training systems to help kids in all aspects of education. We at KCF are delighted to be part of this visionary program.

The founder of HCZ, Geoffery



Canada, and the HCZ Chariman, Stanley Druckenmiller, approached Michael Khodarkovsky to get the program up and running in Harlem. In an annual basis, over 200 kids take a part of the chess workshops. We serve eight locations, including the Promise Academy Charter schools one and two.

HCZ students have been able to participate at city, state and national championships. A new generation of students is coming in, and we also have a new generation of teachers beginning their chess work at HCZ.



The SWVG Rapid & Blitz tournament was held at the Sandton Convention Center in Johannesburg South Africa in May 2019. It attracted top players from across Southern Africa and was held as part of the annual Arnold Classic Africa Sports Festival. The 3 day Arnold Classic event ultimately attracted in excess of 24,000 participants across 90 different sporting codes and is the largest event of its kind on the African continent. The various chess venues were fortunate to receive a visit during the course of the event by the host Arnold Schwarzenegger. While visiting the chess venues, he specifically mentioned his love for chess as a kid growing up and played an exhibition match against one of the youngest participants in eight year old Pranae Govender.



The SWVG Rapid & Blitz tournament is unquestionably the strongest annual rapid and blitz tournament in Southern Africa and offered a combined prize fund of R 40,000 this year. It is also one of only a handful of annual events that specifically caters for players with disabilities. A total of 101 players participated across 7 sections catering specifically for players with disabilities. These included categories for players with Mild Intellectual Disabilities (MID), Severe Intellectual Disabilities (SID), Hearing Impaired Players and Blind Players.



The 2019 Capablanca Chess Festival took place over the Easter weekend at Crawford College in Pretoria, South Africa. It featured a 10 player IM Norm Round Robin section as the headline event as well as six additional “rating class” round robin sections. There were also six additional open sections



which saw a large number of emerging juniors and developing players participate. Ultimately the event broke its own participation record and attracted in excess of 300 players across the various sections on offer. The unique round robin format is modelled on the Wijk aan Zee tournament in the Netherlands and it has always been popular among stronger players. It allows players to compete in tightly controlled rating groups against opponents of equal strength.