



Chess Scholars

ABOUT CHESS SCHOLARS:

Chess Scholars was founded in 2001 and is dedicated to providing professional group and individual chess instruction to children in Northern Illinois, Southern Wisconsin, and Northwestern Indiana. Chess Scholars has been featured in the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Daily Herald*. Currently, we serve over two hundred and fifty schools and community centers. *Over 10,000 children attended our programs this year.*

We take pride in using the best instructors, who are not only very strong players, but also experienced and dedicated teachers. Our instruction is always structured so as to ensure our students' fastest growth as well as their enjoyment of chess. Chess Scholars' instructors have trained several scholastic Illinois State Champions. More importantly, we have instilled the love of chess into hundreds and hundreds of children, enhancing their academic and social skills.



WHY CHESS SCHOLARS

- Ilya Korzhenevich, the Director, is
 1. A Russian Candidate-Master (equivalent to mid-level U.S. Master)
 2. A 1993 Junior Russian Championship prize winner.
 3. **A certified US Chess Federation Coach.**
 4. A full-time chess coach in Illinois since 2001. Seven of his students have reached the top 100 in the U.S. in their age group.
- Chess Scholars has trained **three Illinois Scholastic Chess Champions**
- **Chess Scholars and Ilya Korzhenevich have been featured in the Chicago Tribune and the Daily Herald.**
- All Chess Scholars instructors have been carefully selected for both their teaching and chess abilities and thoroughly trained in the Chess Scholars Curriculum. They have also passed a comprehensive background check.
- Chess Scholars has developed a **unique motivation system** for children. This system prevents beginner players from getting discouraged when playing more experienced opponents. It also encourages children to participate during our interactive lessons.
- Chess Scholars has developed a unique system of **chess belts**, patterned after martial arts belts. This system motivates children to learn in an exciting way and to master chess level by level.
- Children love Chess Scholars programs and keep signing up for subsequent sessions.
- Chess Scholars currently works with **over two hundred schools and community centers, including Catherine Cook School and Harper College.**