2020-2021 Year: A Strong Beginning

New Leadership

COVID-19: Overcoming the Challenge

Since mid-March 2020, all CIS programs have pivoted to remote learning, continuing to offer the same level of service.

A month-long online summer camp provided 100+ elementary school students with daily chess instruction and competitive tournaments.

Summer Academy gave high-school students a chance to stay connected with peers and continue learning using 100% remote tools.

Chess tournaments continued online, serving as a meaningful scholastic remedy against social isolation and stress to home-bound children and teenagers.

The Unprecedented School Year

CIS built a brand-new, multi-platform, blended classroom curriculum, welcomed by teachers in 40+ partner schools in all boroughs.

400+ young chess players compete in online tournaments weekly.

100 high school students meet over Zoom three times a week, preparing for college.

Students learn chess through live remote classes by a master teacher they trust and respect, and use interactive self-evaluation tools developed for independent learning.

Digital programming has been like a breath of fresh air, in a time where we simply cannot get one. It’s so easy to turn on a device (if you have one) and participate in the events that are being provided to us. It feels like we are still together, able to enjoy chess as it nothing in the outside world happened. I am extremely grateful to still be receiving these resources, because no matter what the condition are would be in, it is improving the chess of not only myself but so many others around me. While everything seems to be regressing, we can look to chess for some progress and that is honestly satisfying.

Marcus Sultan, College Bound Senior

Helping kids grow, one move at a time.

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Chess in the Schools is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

To find out how you can help contact: development@chessinthesciences.org

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CIS Mission:
Chess in the Schools fosters the intellectual and social development of low-income youth through chess education.
Year in Numbers

48 schools served
7,700+ elementary, middle, and junior-high school students learned chess in school
800+ students attended after-school chess clubs
19 in-person city-wide tournaments (September 2019 through March 2020)
120+ online tournaments (March 2020 through June 2020)
8,000+ children and teenagers competed in tournaments
84 public school teachers mentored

Teachers Say...

"My students were excited to have chess every Thursday. I would sometimes use chess as an incentive to get schoolwork done before our chess period."

"Students with chronic absences are more likely to come to school on the days we have chess instruction."

Demonstrated Impact

100% of students learned chess
97% of teachers reported that chess had a meaningful positive influence on their students*

85% of teachers reported that their students applied the lessons of chess beyond the chess board*

* Teacher survey, May 2020

Social and Emotional Gains (SEL)

11th and 12th Grade Students

93% of demonstrated gains in one or more SEL capacity
88% showed gains in 3 or more SEL capacities
93% reported good or great college knowledge
100% were satisfied with the College Bound Program

12th Grade Students

94% demonstrated gains in one or more SEL capacity
78% showed gains in 3 or more SEL capacities

The SEL capacities with the strongest impacts were self-management and academic self-efficacy.

2019-2020 Expenses

- 62% Program
- 12% Fundraising
- 8% Administration

2019-2020 Revenue Sources

- 29% Individuals Including Board
- 16% Foundations and Corporations
- 18% Government
- 9% Fees for services
- 2% Other
- 3% Investments

Individual Approach on the Way to College

100% of 2020 seniors have finished high school and enrolled in the colleges of their choice, from Hunter College and Baruch to University of Rochester and Cornell.

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