

Village of Orland Park Media Relations

# NEWSRelease

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## International Chess Organizer and Coach Shares Love of Chess *Orland Park Recreation Offers Chess Lessons with Dr. Mikhail Korenman*

ORLAND PARK, IL – Dr. Mikhail Korenman, a native of Voronezh, Russia, returns to the Orland Park Cultural Center to share his love for the game of chess. The Village of Orland Park Recreation Department will offer chess lessons and chess tournaments during its fall season.

Dr. Korenman, who moved to Orland Park in 2006, has played and taught chess all over the world. The department's fall offerings include a number of chess classes being offered for residents of all ages.

In 2004, the United States Chess Federation named Korenman its Organizer of the Year. Korenman, the founder and former director of the famed Anatoly Karpov School of Chess in Lonsborg, Kansas, is director of the Chess for Peace initiative that recently brought former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to Lonsborg to participate in a weekend of Chess for Peace activities.

"Chess is taught in more than 30 countries, mostly as part of classroom curricula," Korenman said. "Scholastic chess is popular among educators and parents because of the demonstrated positive impact of chess on students' classroom achievements, especially in math problem solving, science and reading comprehension," he added, noting, "The value of developing strategic thought patterns in young people is immeasurable."

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### VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK

#### RECREATION OFFERS CHESS

Korenman received a Master of Science Degree in chemistry from Voronezh State University before moving to Manhattan, Kansas with his wife, Tamara and their children. He earned his Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction in Education from Kansas State University.

Orland Park area residents wanting to learn more have a number of days and times from which to choose.

"This is a great opportunity to learn chess from one of the world masters," said Orland Park Recreation Program Supervisor Stephanie Simpson. "We're very excited to have Dr. Korenman and his family live in Orland Park and for him to share his love for chess with the Orland Park community," she added.

According to Korenman, the benefits of chess are numerous, including improving school work and grades, developing logical thinking and memory, improving concentration, imagination and creativity, among others.

The village's fall recreation programs are held from mid-September through early December. Chess lessons will be held at the village's Cultural Center, the former Orland Park Library, at 14760 Park Lane. Two different sessions are offered for children, a beginner level for those age five to fifteen and an intermediate level for those ages eight to eighteen.

The cost for village residents is \$138 while non-residents pay \$188.

The Village of Orland Park will host chess tournaments on October 25, November 22 and December 20. The pre-registration cost for the tournaments is \$20 while those registering the day of pay \$25.

Registration and further information are available at the Loebe Recreation Center, 14650 South Ravinia Avenue or at the Village Sportsplex, 11351 West 159<sup>th</sup> Street. For more information, call 403-PARK or 645-PLAY.



International Chess Organizer and Coach Dr. Mikhail Korenman will teach chess for all ages during the Orland Park Recreation and Parks Department's fall programs that begin September 16. For more information, call the Orland Park Recreation Department at 708/403-7275.