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**Midwest Chess
Academy**



Press Release

Midwest Chess Academy had a number of students representing quality in all three National events in 2016.

The National Elementary Chess Championships took place May 6-8 at the enormous Opryland Convention Center in Nashville, TN.

At the National Junior High Championship which took place in Indianapolis, IN April 15-17, we had several students play well enough for hardware.

Finally, one of our top performing girls played in the Kasparov's All-Girls National event in Chicago, IL, Apr 22-24.

Here is a list of our top finishers:

[Elementary Nationals](#)

I am providing a complete list below but first I want to single out our hardware winners. You know every year MCA students walk away with hardware. Did you know that they only give out between 8-10% of the field gets hardware? And routinely every year, our students collectively average 20-35%. This year was no different coming in at 32%. That's what statistically you would call significant.

Hats off to the following players.

Owen Nielsen – who performed a very odd but interesting feat by losing his first round and then winning the rest. That's called a Swiss Gambit. Big rating gain for him too.

Carter Cline – Been a top performer all year long and nationals was no different for him.

Sameeth Sheshappa – possibly missed out on a perfect score, but we will have to settle for undefeated. Still a grand accomplishment.

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Rohan Kumar – Had a solid event in a tough section

Shashank Aitha – Likewise in the same section

Ethan Bui – Was only .500 in the championship section after 4 rounds, but pulled off three straight wins and a very important last round win against a superior player. Nerves of steel baby.

I would also like to point out that several of our students played in the Blitz events that won hardware.

For Ratings 900 – 999

1st place, **Sameeth Sheshappa**

3rd place, **Rohan Kumar**

As a team overall, the **Heartland Elementary** squad finished in 3rd place. I believe that's the highest any team from MCA has finished at nationals. Congratulations to them for being speedy.

	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Total	Prize
K-1 Ch									
Henri VanZandeweghe	1	0	0.5	1	1	0	1	4.5	
K-3 U 800									
Owen Nielsen	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	15th Place
Sky Moerlien	1	1	1	0.5	1	0	0	4.5	
Ian Province	0.5	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.5	
Hudson Powers	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	4	
K-5 U 900									
Ibraheem Chaudhri	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	
Rahul Kumar	1	0.5	0.5	0	1	1	0	4	
Carter Cline	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	5	tied for 45th place
Cole Mcmillen	1	0	1	1	0	0.5	1	4.5	
Sameeth Sheshappa	1	1	1	0.5	1	1	1	6.5	2nd Place
James Perry	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	4	
Joey Shonkwiler	1	1	0	0.5	0	0	0.5	3	
Skyler Vince	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	4	
K-6 U 1000									
Rohan Kumar	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	5	23rd Place
Akerth Jain	0.5	1	0.5	1	1	0	0	4	
Shashank Aitha	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	5	tied for 25th place
K-5 Ch									
Ethan Bui	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	5	tied for 35th place
Vera Vancsa	0	1	1	1	0.5	0.5	0	4	
Cael Province	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	4	
total points per round	12	13.5	13.5	12.5	11.5	10	9.5		

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[Junior High Nationals](#)

We had something very interesting happen at this event too. All the players we sent all finished with hardware. An amazing accomplishment.

I'd like to single out the following players.

K-8 Under 1000

6th place, **Sameeth Sheshappa**, 6/7

K-9 Under 1250

1st place, **Ankith Sheshappa**, 7/7

4th place, Lucas Alvarez, 6/7

Tied for 20th place, **Rajin Nagpal**, 5/7

I'd also like to thank Coach Curtis and Jason because they work with these students. They can get some amazing results for their students.



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Plus....

At the [13th Annual Garry Kasparov Foundation All-Girls National Championships](#) we had **Veronika Vancsa** competing in the Under 12 division and she took home 4th place with 5/6 points. [Standings Link](#)



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