

Senator Kelli Stargel will be the Chief Guest at the Polk Scholastic Chess' "Championship Chess Tournament" on March 21, 2015, during which she will meet over 500 aspiring chess players from Polk County schools.

Polk Scholastic Chess (PSC) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization dedicated for the past **25 years** to encouraging academic growth through the game of chess. PSC organizes chess tournaments for all Polk County public schools and is supported by the Polk County School Board. Every year, around 600 kids participate in the tournaments from the entire Polk County, Pre-Kindergarten to 12th grade. All the board members are non-salaried volunteers. Official website with more details about the activities and tournament format: <http://www.polkscholasticchess.com>.



"We strongly believe that our time-tested, ancient game of chess has tremendous potential towards academic achievement. Focus on the 64 squares on chess board catalytically develops the brain cells in areas like strategy, tactics, patience, probability, sportsmanship, time management, psychology, etc.," said Malay Shah, President, Polk Scholastic Chess. "The PSC Board members are thankful to Senator Stargel for being with us. It is always great to interact with our elected officials, especially when child education is one of their priorities. Our chess players, their parents and school coaches are looking forward to meeting with Senator Stargel and sharing our values and mission with her. Chess clearly contributes to a child's education."

Apart from trophies to the winners, PSC awards participation trophies to all qualifying players in this Championship Tournament, so every child walks out with a trophy and a smile. Additionally, PSC recognizes two graduating seniors who have had an extended length of participation with Polk Scholastic Chess and who have made active contributions to their school and community. As part of this encouragement for academic growth, scholarships are awarded towards their continuing education.

Venue & Time for Award Ceremony:

4:00 pm; Saturday, March 21st, 2015.

Highland Park Church of the Nazarene

Family Ministries Building, 4730 Lakeland Highlands Road, Lakeland, FL 33813



For further information, contact:

Malay Shah

President

Polk Scholastic Chess

e: President@polkscholasticchess.com