



# THE ARGONAUT



A LAKE MARY HIGH SCHOOL YOUNG MEN OF EXCELLENCE PUBLICATION

**BROTHERHOOD | LEADERSHIP | WISDOM | CHIVALRY | STRENGTH**



## CHESS IN THE CLASSROOM

**History.** Chaturanga is a classic game of strategy, invented more than 1,500 years ago in India. Legend has it that the ruler of India asked his wise men to devise a way to teach the children of the royal family to become better strategists and generals on the battlefield. The result of this was a game called Chaturanga, which would later develop into Chess.

**Academic Benefits.** Chess teaches the following skills: focusing, visualizing, thinking ahead, weighing options, thinking abstractly, planning, and juggling multiple considerations simultaneously. None of these skills are specific to chess, but they are all part of the game.

**Educational Research.** These conclusions have been backed up by educational research. Studies have been done in various locations around the United States and Canada, showing that chess results in increased scores on standardized tests for both reading and math.

**Social Benefits.** In the schools, chess often serves as a bridge, bringing together children of different ages, races and genders in an activity they can all enjoy. Chess helps build individual friendships and school spirit when children compete together as teams against other schools.

For the full article, by Chessmaster Jerry Meyers, see pages 9-10 of [The Benefits of Chess in Education: A Collection of Studies and Papers on Chess and Education](#).

## ABOUT US

Young Men of Excellence is an innovative program designed in developing young men into great men.

Our program empowers its members through established mentorship opportunities, team building projects and helping every young man cultivate interpersonal skills, hard and soft skills, as well as, strategies to achieve their short and long-term goals.

The Lake Mary Chapter of Young Men of Excellence focuses on five key virtues (Brotherhood, Leadership, Wisdom, Chivalry and Strength) in developing its members into successful leaders, while also promoting a way of life that exemplifies excellence and noble manhood.

**“Every chess master  
was once a beginner.”  
– Irving Chernev**

## Important Dates

*Did you know these national and international days?*

### Monthly Awareness

American Heart Month  
Black History Month

February 2  
Groundhog Day



February 3  
National Signing Day

February 4  
World Cancer Day

February 4-5  
Middle School Visit Days

February 7  
Super Bowl Sunday



February 11  
Third Annual YMOE Chess  
Tournament

February 14



February 15  
Presidents Day (No School)

February 17  
Ash Wednesday  
Random Act of Kindness Day

February 25  
Purim

February 27  
International Polar Bear Day  
National Pokemon Day

## Standard of Excellence

*In our previous publications we discussed two of our five pillars. This month we will cover Wisdom.*

To promote deeper learning, we provide lessons that allow our students the opportunity to apply their knowledge through the application of life skills while exercising leadership in the process. Our philosophy is that knowledge comes from learning, and wisdom comes from living.

## February Challenge

*Join us as we incorporate cold showers into your daily routine.*

Cold showers are beneficial for both your mind and your body in that they reduced stress levels, increase alertness, improve your immune, increase metabolism and help develop stronger willpower.

## Member Highlights

*We would like to introduce our newest members and celebrate birthdays!*

### Newest Members

Jaiden Bauduy

### Happy Birthday!

February 8: Serapio Alicea

February 18: Dillon Peterson

February 25: Nomar Torres



## Scholarship Opportunities

*Here are some scholarship opportunities! Click the links below to check them out and apply before the deadline!*

- Support our Scholars:  
open until February 11
- Bridging the Dream Scholarship Program: apply by March 8

## RAM OF THE MONTH

Victor Tran



When it comes to academic excellence, Victor is at the front of the flock. Between staying safe from a global pandemic and learning from home, this year has been interesting to say the least. Even with all that adversity, working and at home distractions Victor has managed to maintain a 4.12 GPA, while taking 1 gifted and 3 honors classes. His dedication to his personal and academic success is one that serves as a great model for the members of YMOE and his fellow peers. Keep striving for excellence, Victor. We look forward to having you back on campus. #Ramstrong





# HISTORY MONTH

To satisfy the labor needs of the rapidly growing North American colonies, white European settlers turned from indentured servants to a cheaper, more plentiful labor source: enslaved Africans. After a Dutch ship brought 20 Africans ashore at the British colony of Jamestown, Virginia in 1619, slavery began to spread like a rapid cancer throughout the American colonies. Though it is impossible to give accurate figures, some historians have estimated that 6 to 7 million enslaved people were imported to the New World during the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, depriving the African continent of its most valuable resource—its men and women. Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. In 1868, the 13th and 14th Amendment to the Constitution abolished slavery, giving African Americans equal protection under the law and in 1870 the 15th Amendment granted African American men the right to vote.

Unfortunately, many white Americans, especially those from the South, were outraged that their livelihood had been impacted by these constitutional changes and that the people they had once enslaved were now on a more-or-less *equal* playing field. To marginalize African Americans, keep them separate from white people and erase the progress they had made during the Reconstruction era, “Jim Crow” laws were established in the South. African Americans were not allowed to use the same public facilities as white people, live in the same towns or go to the same schools. Interracial marriage was illegal, and most African Americans could not vote because they were unable to pass illegally placed voter literacy tests. As time went on African Americans suffered many injustices, but even in the face of adversity they progressed as a community.

The civil rights movement was a struggle for social justice that took place during the 1950s and 1960s to gain equal rights under the law within the United States. While the Civil War had officially abolished slavery, it did not end the discrimination against Black people, as Black communities continued to endure the devastating effects of violence, racism and segregation. By the mid-20th century, Black Americans had had enough of the prejudice and violence against them and along with many white Americans, they mobilized and began an unprecedented fight for equality that spanned two decades. This month we honor those men and women who sacrificed so much in the fight for equality and the progression of a people oppressed for over 400 years. To the many figures who have made a contribution to our nation's diversity, we thank you for never giving up and for your contributions to society.





**Frederick Douglass, 1818-1895**  
 Social Reformer, Writer, and National  
 Leader of Abolitionist Movement in  
 Massachusetts



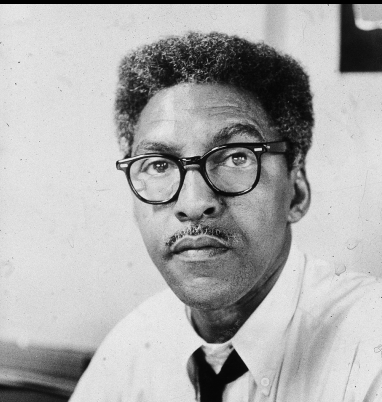
**Carter G. Woodson, 1875-1950**  
 American Historian, Author, Journalist  
 Presented Black History Week which  
 led to the start of Black History Month



**Duke Ellington, 1899-1974**  
 American Composer, Pianist, Leader of  
 Jazz Orchestra; Career lasted over a  
 span of six decades



**Louis Armstrong, 1901-1971**  
 American Trumpeter Composer,  
 Vocalist, and Actor; Career spanned  
 five decades from 1920s-1960s



**Bayard Rustin, 1912-1987**  
 American leader in social movements  
 Adviser to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr and  
 organizer of the March on Washington



**Jesse Owens, 1913-1918**  
 American Olympic Track and Field  
 Won 4 gold medals in Berlin in 1913



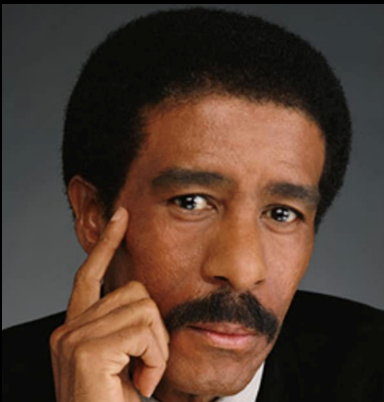
**Jackie Robinson, 1919-1972**  
 First African American to play in Major  
 League Baseball as a first baseman for  
 the Brooklyn Dodgers



**Sidney Poitier, 1927-present**  
 American Actor, Director, and Producer  
 First African American to win an  
 Academy Award for Best Acting



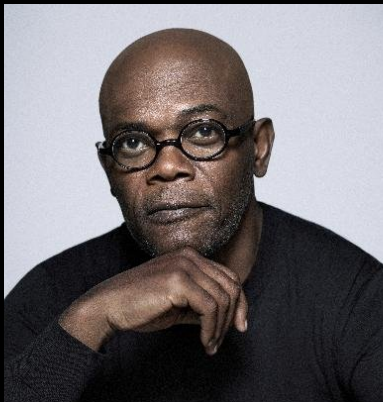
**Quincy Jones, 1933-present**  
 American Record Producer, Multi-  
 Instrumentalist, Songwriter, Composer,  
 and Television Producer



**Richard Pryor, 1940-2005**  
 Greatest Stand-Up Comedian of all  
 time despite his difficult upbringing



**Muhammed Ali, 1942-2016**  
 Heavyweight Boxer with a very high  
 profile for the civil rights movement  
 and support of Malcolm X



**Samuel L. Jackson, 1948-present**  
 American Actor  
 Attended a historic black college and was  
 involved in the Black Power Movement



**Denzel Washington, Jr., 1954-present**  
 American Actor, Director, and Producer  
 Won two Oscars and the first Black actor  
 to win two Academy Awards



**Barack Obama, 1961-present**  
 First African American President and  
 the 44th President of the United States  
 Awarded Nobel Peace Prize



**Maurice Ashley, 1966-present**  
 Jamaican-American Chess Grandmaster,  
 Author, and Commentator; In 1999, he  
 became the first Black Grandmaster



**Kobe Bryant, 1978-2020**  
 Los Angeles Lakers basketball player  
 Impactful donor to Stand Up to Cancer,  
 Make a Wish and many more

## FOR MORE INFORMATION



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**FOSTERING EXCELLENCE SINCE 2014**