

Jennifer Shahade

Professional Poker Player and US Champion Chess Player

Imagine a world where strategy meets art, and intellect breaks through barriers—this is the realm of Jennifer Shahade, a dual champion in chess and poker. As a two-time Global Poker Award winner, she has carved a niche in the competitive poker world. In chess, she stands as a legend and serves on the board of the World Chess Hall of Fame. Her influence extends beyond gaming, as she passionately advocates for education and inclusivity in both chess and poker.

Exclusively represented by Leading Authorities Speakers Bureau, Jennifer Shahade is an engaging and inspiring speaker. Her talks delve into the intricate balance of aggression and patience. While she covers her experiences in chess and poker, she also explores decision-making, negotiation strategies, and the artistic aspects of chess. Jennifer emphasizes the importance of chess literacy among young people and women, sharing stories of female chess champions and addressing critical gender and cultural issues. Her versatile workshops range from research-focused presentations to interactive sessions where participants create art inspired by the history of the chess queen. She also uses real poker hands to illustrate crucial points in finance and negotiation, making complex concepts accessible to beginners.

Jennifer Shahade's accomplishments are a testament to her exceptional talent and dedication. She made history in 1998 as the first female to win the U.S. Junior Open, and later won the U.S. Women's Chess Championship in 2002 and 2004. She also earned a silver medal representing United States at the Chess Olympiad. Jennifer is the co-founder of 9 Queens and has coached and mentored thousands of young people through her work in chess.

A PokerStars Pro, Shahade has won poker tournaments all over the World, from Prague to Las Vegas. She holds a degree in comparative literature from New York University, and she is the author of many books, including CHESS QUEENS, PLAY LIKE A GIRL, PLAY LIKE A CHAMPION and THINKING SIDEWAYS. Her writing has been featured in prominent publications such as the Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times and MSNBC.