



THE CYBERSENTINEL

The official newsletter of CyberPatriot—AFA's National Youth Cyber Education Program

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REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

National Commissioner's Cache



One of the lessons life teaches us old people is that it goes quickly. You blink and a year goes by; you yawn, and a decade passes. I never believed it when I was young, but I know it now. And so it is with my privileged decade (plus a year) of leading CyberPatriot. I just yawned, and it's gone!

Sadly for me it's time to say farewell, and to say it's been an honor would be a gross understatement. The relationships and friendships you and I have formed have been gratifying, and your commitment as coaches, mentors, competitors, AFA volunteers, and other supporters has been profoundly inspiring. Northrop Grumman and its Foundation and our other generous supporters have been the fuel that has enabled the program to grow to the largest and most successful cyber education program on planet Earth! The support from UTSA-CIAS has been pivotal to that success, as has the support of our centers of excellence and our Board of Advisors. To have been part of this has been something I will never forget.

My part has been small, as AFA's Aerospace Education Council conceived this program, and others—including the best staff I could have ever hoped for—reared it. To Rachel Zimmerman, Frank Zaborowski, Rebecca Dalton, Gamil Mohammed, Lisa O'Loughlin, Leah McLeod, Helen Daage, and Nick Green, you and your predecessors made this happen, and I know I was wrongly given credit for your work far too often. To Bridget Dongu, LaDonna Orleans, Zaur Eylanbekov, Meghan McClelland, and Amanda Grandel, your collateral support to the program has been amazing. Thank you. And to Juliette Kelsey Chagnon, Amy McCullough, Chequita Wood, Mike Tsukamoto, and AFA's Air Force Magazine staff, thanks for shining the light on us and making us look great. CyberPatriot has a bright future. Thank you all for letting me be part of its past.

CyberPatriot Demo Release

The CyberPatriot Interactive Demonstration (Demo) Software version 1.0A has been released to CyberPatriot Centers of Excellence. The CyberPatriot Demo is a partial simulation of a CyberPatriot image, with a built-in tutorial. The Demo aims

to introduce teachers, students, organizational leaders, and others to the CyberPatriot competition. The small software package (50 MB) was designed as an informational and recruiting tool that can be used as a **presentation or hands-on activity at an event, conference, meeting, or in the classroom**. It may be used at in-person and virtual events. The software was not designed to be a training image for CyberPatriot teams.

A presenter requires the following equipment and software to run the CyberPatriot Demo.

- Windows 7 or better computer
- ZIP program
- CyberPatriot Demo program download

Once the program is unzipped and executed, it is ready to go.

In a typical use of the CyberPatriot Demo, a presenter will begin the presentation by giving the attendees an overview of CyberPatriot. Then the presenter will either go through the demonstration (explaining how the competition works), or have the attendees do the hands-on simulation of the CyberPatriot competition.

The CyberPatriot Demo will show scored points as the presenter or attendees finds and fixes security vulnerabilities in the simulated image. At the end of the simulated competition, attendees will receive a certificate of completion.



On May 14, 2021, the CyberPatriot Demo will be available on the CyberPatriot website for download.

CP-XIII Coach and Mentor of the Year Nomination



If you know a coach or mentor that deserves recognition, nominate them for the CyberPatriot Coach or Mentor of the Year Award.

Coach of the Year Nomination: <https://forms.gle/F9HzTEgF2zUBVYA8>

Mentor of the Year Nomination: <https://forms.gle/vVjRoiqVrFZrffag7>

These awards recognize excellence among volunteer coaches and mentors. If you think your coach or mentor is deserving of such recognition, nominate them today! **Nominations will be accepted through May 15, 2021.**

CyberPatriot XIV

Registration is now open for CyberPatriot XIV -- the fourteenth season of the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. Registration is open until October 5, 2021. Register before July 1, for a 20% discount.



RETURNING COACHES: Use your existing volunteer account to sign in and register your new team(s) for the upcoming competition season. Teams DO NOT carry over from last season.

NEW COACHES: Create a volunteer account, then sign in to register your teams(s) for the upcoming competition season.

FULL REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS: A PDF version of the registration instructions can be found [HERE](#)

CyberPatriot Notice



It has come to our attention that there is a company by the name of CyberReplay that is advertising CyberPatriot training images for purchase. CyberReplay and other companies like it are NOT affiliated with the official CyberPatriot Program Office. While these training resources may be helpful to your organization, please do your own research and purchase at your own risk. As an important reminder while using outside resources for training, make sure that your team is abiding by the CyberPatriot Rules Book. Teams are not allowed to collaborate with other teams during the competition.

AFA CyberCamps 2021

Are you a student interested in attending an AFA CyberCamp? You can contact us at afacybercamps@uscyberpatriot.org to be added to a list of individuals who will be notified once camp locations are released.

Registration for CyberCamps is at the discretion of the organization hosting the camp. Some camp hosts will share their registration information with CyberPatriot to post to our website, while others will choose not to share the information. The list of open camp locations and registration information is we can share it will be released the first or second week of May.



Learn more about hosting a camp at <https://www.uscyberpatriot.org/afa-cybercamps/getting-started/host-a-camp>.

A Word From Our Sponsors

The Cisco Networking Academy (NetAcad) and the AFA CyberPatriot program have been partners helping students set the foundation for their future for over ten years. As a Cyber Diamond Sponsor of CyberPatriot, Cisco provides content and curriculum for the Cisco Networking Challenge of the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, as well as provides curriculum for the summer Advance AFA CyberCamps. Since the partnership started Networking Academy and CyberPatriot have impacted over 60,000 students. Additionally, Cisco is proud to provide 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place National Finals winners

educational grants to each member of the team for educational purposes. "We are delighted to support the CyberPatriot program. We know that cyber skills are needed in every type of business now and getting students interested early is key to building our workforce. From curriculum to coaching to connecting to jobs, Networking Academy is committed to supporting educators and their students as they progress through courses to gain the much-needed skills to obtain positions with bright futures." says Rebecca Chisolm, Cisco Corporate Social Responsibility Regional Manager for the United States and Canada.



According to The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Information Security Analyst's Outlook, cybersecurity jobs are among the fastest-growing career areas nationally. The BLS predicts cybersecurity jobs will grow 31% through 2029, over seven times faster than the national average job growth of 4%. CyberPatriot competitors can help fill the growing need of cybersecurity professionals in industry. A quote from CyberPatriot competitors, Tiffany and Ashley from Hawaii highlights how anyone can get involved with the program, "At first I wasn't excited because I thought it was going to be too hard, but as we moved through the curriculum, I realized that I CAN do this, and that cyber is something I am interested in. We had FUN and wanted to learn more about python and cybersecurity from the NetAcad website."

Students who participate in CyberPatriot also receive a NetAcad.com login which provides them access to several self-paced courses such as: Introduction to Cybersecurity, NDG Linux Unhatched & Essentials, Introduction to Packet Tracer, PCAP: Programming Essentials in Python and more. These self-paced courses offer students certificates of completion and some offer digital badges which can be proudly displayed by students on their LinkedIn profiles or other online portfolios. Having a NetAcad.com login also provides students with access to Talent Bridge that offers several career resources from articles to webinars and the Talent Bridge Matching Engine. Talent Bridge has helped over 30,000 students globally obtain a job. The Talent Bridge Matching Engine connects talent with job opportunities that they can apply for directly in the tool. Offering qualified students (must be at least 18) and graduates employment connections based on achievement, geographic location, and job roles.

The partnership between CyberPatriot and Cisco Networking Academy has not gone unnoticed by other organizations. Since the partnership began, over 100 educational institutions associated with the CyberPatriot Program have established their own local Networking Academies furthering the training and career development opportunities for their student population. This provides students with an opportunity to obtain industry certifications by participating in IT Essentials, CCNA, DevNet Associate & CyberOps Associate courses at their local high schools, community colleges and universities. Additionally, Civil Air Patrol has also adopted the NetAcad program for all 53,000 adult and cadet members as they work to expand their cyber offerings within their nation-wide organization. When asked if everyone should have a foundational understanding of cybersecurity, Lt. Col. Joanne Janchus, of Peachtree DeKalb Senior Squadron in the Georgia Wing, shared, "Yes, I believe everyone should have a foundational understanding of cybersecurity because I bet most people are like I was and think they know about it, but are incorrect. After taking the NetAcad course I found out how little I knew about cybersecurity, it's very much needed, and it seems every day it's necessary to be one up on data and digital crime."

For educators, the Networking Academy program offers a wealth of resources such as access to free online curriculum and instructor resources, certification and equipment discounts, a scalable cloud-based global delivery platform that is available in multiple languages. 97% of the educators that NetAcad works with have said we have helped them become better instructors. Teaching tomorrow's workforce is a tough assignment, but not so when partnering with Cisco. We make it easy to make a difference. Building tomorrow's workforce, today!

For more information on the Cisco Networking Academy program, please visit: <https://www.netacad.com/> or reach out to Sara Shreve, Corporate Social Responsibility Manager (sashreve@cisco.com) or Cindy DeCarlo, Cisco Director - National Security and Governments for Cisco's Industry Solutions Group (cdecarlo@cisco.com).

CyberPatriot Shoutout

Sky Jung | CyberPatriot Competitor committed to attend Harvard this fall

Sky Jung, a four year CyberPatriot competitor and a senior from Troy High School in Fullerton, CA was accepted to Harvard and plans to pursue a 4 year degree in Computer Science. Miss Jung is one of eight web hosts for the K-12 CyberTalk Show, where CyberPatriot was interviewed last month. You can find the episode featuring CyberPatriot [Here](#).



CyberPatriot would like you to meet Sky Jung in her most recent interview:

Q. When did you realize you had a talent for computers?

A. The earliest memory that I have of working with computers (other than simple typing tests) was in middle school. I attended my first Java coding camp for about a week to learn the basics of programming and computer science principles. The learning curve felt very steep at first, but the experience of attending coding camp really sparked my interest in pursuing more STEM/CS-related activities into high school. This was also what guided me to explore cybersecurity and the CyberPatriot program at Troy.

Q. Do you have a unique story from when you were younger and just starting to learn about cybersecurity?

A. I started learning about cybersecurity after attending my high school's summer Cyber Camp before freshman year. Though I only expected Cyber Camp to teach me conceptual cybersecurity topics, I was pleasantly surprised by the opportunities we had to participate in hands-on activities as well. For example, I tinkered around with a Linux OS using bash for the first time at Cyber Camp. Even though it would have been nice to start cyber earlier, I think high school is not a late starting point. As long as you have a spark of interest, there is definitely merit in pursuing more knowledge in cybersecurity.

Q. Did CyberPatriot have an impact on deciding your career pathway?

A. I can confidently say that CyberPatriot has made a very large impact on my decision to pursue computer science in college. CyberPatriot opened doors for me to explore an entire new field of STEM that is often overlooked. As a network security specialist (CISCO), I learned the fundamentals of network design and networking device configuration-skills that most high schoolers would never even imagine practicing otherwise. CyberPatriot also introduced me to an international exchange program where I spent 3 weeks between the US/UK to learn about cybersecurity leadership. After visiting a diverse range of cybersecurity firms and meeting countless mentors in the field, I felt more confident in my future career goals.

Q. What is your ideal career choice?

A. Software Engineer or a Security Software Developer

Q. For other girls who are looking up to you as a strong female leader, what advice would you give them to follow their dreams?

A. As a "girl in STEM," I have definitely experienced the gender disparity that exists in the high school STEM/CS/Cybersecurity community first-hand.

While I made the decision to pursue the computer science pathway, I became aware of the stereotypes about "girls in STEM" that disparaged the contributions and talent of many female engineers. In my eyes, being called a "girl in STEM" carried the tone of a taunting punchline. I felt surrounded by the seemingly smarter, more talented boys in my computer science classes and often found myself compliant to my own internalized misogyny.

In the summer before my junior year, I had the opportunity to visit a cybersecurity firm called CrowdStrike and hear the testimony of a female representative, who spoke about gender barriers she faced in the computer science field. From that experience, I began to realize my previous complacency for the alarmingly normalized gender divide in STEM and sought

more educational resources. Hearing the success stories of women in STEM inspired me to imagine my own without the hesitation that deterred me in the past. Now, as a member of organizations like the National Center for Women & Information Technology, Girls Who Code, and Built by Girls, I recognize that the title “girl in STEM” is truly an emblem for the rising generation of females in technology.

During my time in CyberPatriot, I was also an instructor for the female camp room at my high school's Cyber Camp for two summers. This experience really taught me the importance of mentorship and leadership in STEM, especially for young girls. Another inspiration in my life was reading books about female empowerment and having conversations about ways to gain confidence in STEM. Specifically, *Brotopia* by Emily Chang is a book that I recommend to anyone looking to pursue STEM as their future career. This book gave insight on the causes behind existing gender stereotypes in the CS field as well as the impact that it has on the industry as a whole.

Q. What is your favorite CyberPatriot story?

A. It's hard for me to pinpoint a specific story from CyberPatriot that I can say is my favorite, but I think the highlight of CyberPatriot over the past four years was definitely competition day. After playing countless 6-hour rounds you might expect us competitors to become accustomed to competition days, but personally, every round felt unique and exciting in its own way. From sharing snacks with my teammates, panicking about a vulnerability, or having to restart a packet tracer from scratch, the highs and lows of competition days are memories that will last with me even beyond high school.

Preventing Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying Prevention Tips:

Unfortunately, cyberbullying has become far too common, especially among teens and young adults. If you are ever a victim of cyberbullying, keep in mind the following tips:

- Do not respond to the cyberbullying message/post.
- Block the cyberbullying offender.
- Report the cyberbullying or other abuse to the site.
 - Social media sites give users the ability to flag content they see as offensive.

If you experience cyberbullying at school, inform your teacher or a school administrator immediately, just like you would with any other type of bullying.

If you experience cyberbullying at home, tell your parents immediately, regardless of the severity. Law enforcement officials may need to get involved if the cyberbullying involves threats of violence, explicit messages or photos, photos or videos of someone in a place where he/she would expect privacy, stalking and/or hate crimes.

Additional tips:

- Reporting the cyberbullying to the website or messaging service is not enough. Make sure you report cyberbullying to your parents and/or school faculty.
- Keep screenshots or records of the bullying to provide as evidence. This is especially important if the authorities need to get involved.

CyberPatriot & The News

Ones to Watch: Education

Zeller currently serves as technology coordinator and computer science department chair. He designs and oversees the continual renewal of hardware and software technology both inside and outside the classroom. As technology coordinator,

he is noted by his colleagues as being creative and original, tapping into students' interest in classes including digital media, fine arts survey: animation and fine arts survey: game development.

[High School Cyber warriors take 1st, 2nd place in annual cyber challenge](#) | By Candy Knight

WIESBADEN, Germany — The 2nd Theater Brigade Commander, Col. Michael R. Kaloostian, presented Certificates of Excellence and congratulations April 15 to Air Force Association United States CyberPatriot program participants at Wiesbaden High School for placing first and second during the CyberPatriot's National Youth Cyber Defense Competition.

[Efren Zamaro Selected As SynED's Cyber Hero for Drive, Passion, and Curiosity at an Early Age](#)

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif., April 13, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- Today, SynED, a national non-profit organization that identifies emerging best practices for effective articulation between employers, job seekers, and education providers, announced that Efren "EZ" Zamaro was selected as its national Cyber Hero for April 2021.