



# THE CYBERSENTINEL

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

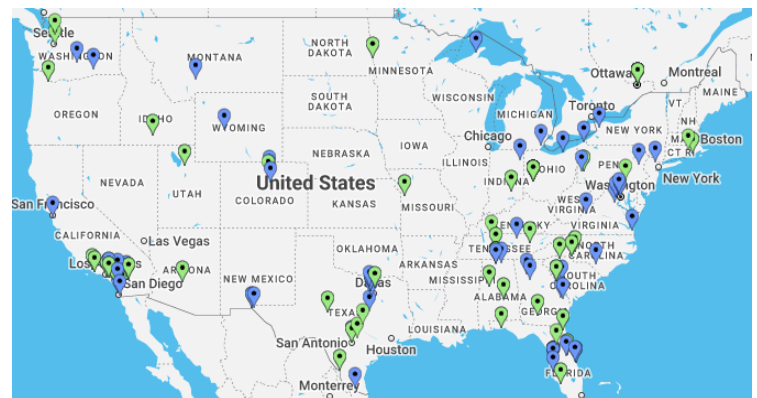
JUNE 2023

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## AFA CyberCamps

The first week of AFA CyberCamps kicks off on June 5<sup>th</sup> with camps across the United States. This year there are approximately 310 registered camps reaching 4,000-7,000 students.

[CLICK HERE FOR A LIST OF REGISTERED 2023 AFA CYBERCAMPS](#)



## CyberPatriot XVI



Don't forget to register your team for CyberPatriot XVI – the 2023-2024 season of the national youth cyber defense competition!

**Register your team before July 1 to receive a 20% discount on registration fees. The final deadline to register a team is Tuesday October 3, 2023.**

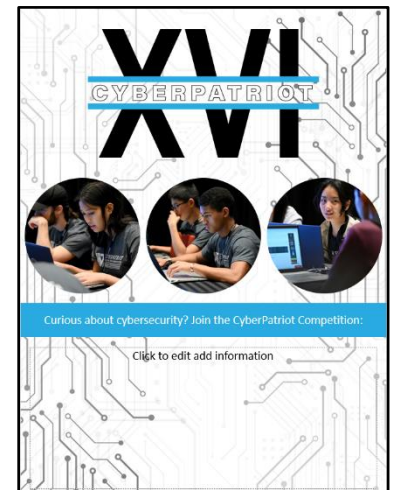
*Reminder: If you are a returning team, you must re-register for the new season. Registrations from previous seasons do NOT carry over.*

You can also promote the competition in your school or organization by downloading the CyberPatriot XVI promo flyer, which is available on the competition dashboard. Use the blank box on the bottom of the flyer to fill in additional details about how students can get involved!

As of May 31<sup>st</sup>, just over 1,600 teams are registered for the competition. Registration will remain open through October 3<sup>rd</sup> for any team to join.

[REGISTER A CYBERPATRIOT TEAM TODAY!](#)

If you register now, your team will gain access to the summer exhibition rounds and early fall training rounds. Payment and competitor registration is not required to participate in the exhibition rounds, so you can sign up today risk-free!



## CP-XVI Exhibition Round #1



Exhibition Round #1 is now available for all teams registered for CyberPatriot XVI. Exhibition rounds are designed for practice and recruiting competitors to your CyberPatriot teams. In this round, both the Windows 10 and Ubuntu 18 virtual image comes with an answer key at the bottom of the Read Me file. Access to the image is available through June 13<sup>th</sup>. *Exhibition Round #2 will begin July 20<sup>th</sup>.*

**Additional Training** (click the buttons below):

### WINDOWS & UBUNTU:

ARCHIVED WINDOWS  
TRAINING MODULES

Introductory training materials. **See Units 7 - 9 for technical training.** More robust training modules are on the Coach's Dashboard.

UBUNTU TRAINING  
MODULES (BEGINNER)

Short online course that simulates an Ubuntu / Linux image and command line. At least one competitor on each team should take the course. (Sponsored by Cisco)

### CISCO NETWORKING:

CISCO NETWORKING  
BASICS

If you don't know where to start with networking, this is the course for you. It is supplementary to the training modules assigned to each competition round.

PACKET TRACER  
(BEGINNER 1)

This short course is for those who do not know how to use Packet Tracer.

PACKET TRACER AND  
IoT (BEGINNER 2)

The 6-hour course teaches aspects of networking devices together to prepare a team for the competition rounds.

***More Cisco Network Academy self-paced courses are available through the CyberPatriot website.  
Be sure to check them out!***

[Cisco Network Academy Self-Paced Courses](#)

## CyberPatriot XV – Coach & Mentor of the Year Nominations

Do you know a coach or mentor that deserves recognition? Nominate them for the CyberPatriot XV Coach or Mentor of the Year Award!

***Nominations will be accepted through Friday, June 9, 2023.***



[COACH OF THE YEAR NOMINATION](#)

[MENTOR OF THE YEAR NOMINATION](#)

## CyberPatriot Alumni Spotlight

Deziraе Villarreal | CyberPatriot VII, VIII, IX, X, XI



Deziraе is currently a Senior at Texas Tech University studying Information Technology with a triple-minor in Human Resources, Organizational Leadership, and Political Science. This semester, she is in Washington DC interning with Congressman, Joaquin Castro (TX-20), where she will be expanding her knowledge in tech policy.

Originally when Deziraе got involved in CyberPatriot, she wasn't sure if her interest in tech was simply a hobby or a career path. She quickly learned it was much more than a hobby and now she is also considering joining the Space Force as an officer once she graduates college this December. Since her time competing in CyberPatriot, Deziraе has continued to learn about tech and the various possibilities that are available to her. Exploring the different disciplines has led her to many different avenues of work, including understanding how tech is involved in a clinical setting, a university system, engineering, and how tech intersects with policy.

Deziraе credits CyberPatriot for helping to lay the foundation for her future in the tech field. She believes there are many lessons to be learned while competing in such a high-level competition, but most importantly, she learned perseverance and to never give up. "The competition can resemble our everyday lives. Just keep pushing through, even when feeling discouraged and you will likely come across the best moments, opportunities, and people when you least expect it!" Deziraе wants to be sure other CyberPatriot participants understand how important it is to take in all that you can throughout the competition season, including building important relationships with the people you meet along the way. "Tech is everywhere and in everything we do. All the experiences throughout CyberPatriot are only helping build your future, enjoy it!"



*A fun fact from Deziraе: Our CyberPatriot Team Song was "Lose Yourself" by Eminem and we would play it when we were in a rut and would instantly find missing points. Now when I'm feeling down, I play that song and it is an instant pick-me-up!*

***Do you want to be featured in an issue of the CyberSentinel?  
Complete the [survey](#) and your story could be in the spotlight!***

## CyberPatriot in The News

### [YOUNG STUDENTS COMPETE IN CYBERSECURITY COMPETITION AT UW](#)

**CyberTitan Competition | CTV News Kitchener**

Students in grades 7-12 from Canada's top teams competed in the Information and Communications Technology Council's (ICTCs) sixth annual CyberTitan competition. This year, the competition was held at the University of Waterloo (UW) on Monday. CyberTitan is known as one of Canada's largest cyber defence competitions and it aims to build the future of the cybersecurity workforce.

### [NEASE NJROTC STUDENTS EXCELLING IN CYBERSECURITY](#)

**By Shaun Ryan**

For years, the Nease NJROTC drill teams have excelled in competition. Now, they are about to be joined in their success by students in the program's newest discipline, one based on an emerging field of study: cybersecurity. In its third year, the Nease NJROTC CyberPatriot team has grown dramatically in number and in competitive victories.

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*Want to be featured in the next edition of the CyberSentinel? Please send email highlights or accolades to [info@uscyberpatriot.org](mailto:info@uscyberpatriot.org).*