



THE CYBERSENTINEL

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

December 2021 | In This Issue

- CyberPatriot XIV Info and Updates →
- Sponsor Spotlight →
- Participant Spotlight →
- CyberPatriot Job Opportunity →
- CyberPatriot & The News →
- Holiday Gift Guide →
- LOLs & Executables →



CyberPatriot XIV Info and Updates

New Competition Resources

After Round 1 Feedback, the CyberPatriot Staff made significant changes that had resounding success in Round 2. For Round 2 coaches had new resources added to their coach's dashboard, which included access to the Download and StartEx emails on the coach's dashboard, a folder of competition resource documents, and an FAQ page.

The decision to add the Download and StartEx Emails to the coach's dashboard came after numerous reports of firewalls blocking the emails. Moving forward, coaches will be able to find copies of the image emails on the dashboard.

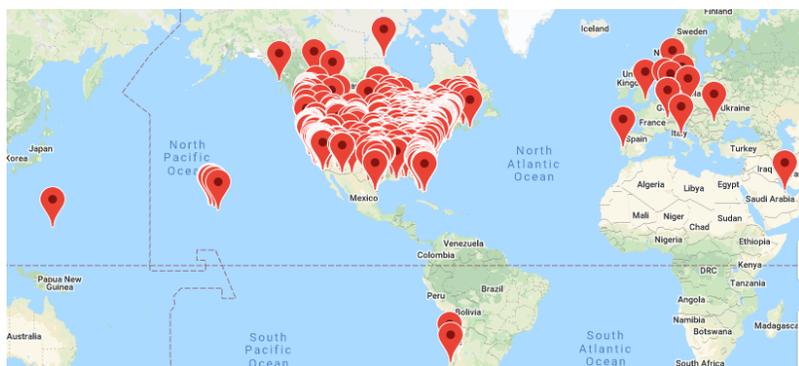
The newly released Competition Resources .zip Folder, found on the coach's dashboard, is a "one-stop-shop" for information and resources needed for the competition. We recommend that coach's download the folder and keep it in an easily accessible location (such as the Desktop) for easy reference. In the folder coach's can find:



- CyberPatriot XIV Rule Book
- Challenges by Round
- Scoring and Advancement
- Technical Specifications
- Whitelist Information
- Software Installation Instructions
- Image Download Instructions
- Cisco NetAcad Content Course Instructions
- Cisco NetAcad Challenge Instructions

The new [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) webpage](#) addresses questions that pertain to a variety of topics, including coach responsibilities, virtual image distribution, Cisco Networking Academy, scoring and penalties, image troubleshooting, and best ways to contact us. This page will be continuously updated with answers to commonly asked questions, and should be referenced before reaching out to our staff.

Round 2 Recap



Congratulations to the teams that competed in Round 2 of CyberPatriot XIV. The average score for Round 2 was 143 points for the three virtual images, not including the Cisco Networking portion of the competition.

For high school teams (Open and All Service Divisions), Round 2 scores are added to Round 1 scores to determine skill tier placement for the state round.

CyberPatriot XIV State Round (Dec. 10-12)

The State Round is the third and final guaranteed round of competition for all teams. Open and All Service Division teams have been sorted into tiers based on their cumulative Round 1 and Round 2 scores. Platinum tier teams rank the highest, representing the top 30% of teams. Next is the Gold tier, which is made up of the middle 40% of teams. The remaining 30% of teams compete in the Silver tier. Tier placement can be viewed in the Round 2 published scores.

The Middle School Division does not get sorted into tiers.

The State Round provides an opportunity for teams to earn awards and recognition within their tier or within their state.

State and Tier Awards

Within each division, printed state award certificates are given to the top three teams per state. [Note: Canada and the “At-Large” region (international teams) are each recognized as a state]. It is important to note that the Platinum tier always outranks the Gold tier, which always outranks the Silver tier. Platinum tier teams are typically the teams to earn printed state awards.

Tier awards are digital certificates given to the top three teams per state in the Gold and Silver tiers. While these teams are not necessarily the top overall in their state, they are the top within their skill level and deserve proper recognition.

See Appendix VII of the Official [Rule Book](#) for examples of state and tier awards. Note that the Platinum Tier receives a State award and does not qualify for a tier recognition, since they are recognized as top in their state.

Participant Kits

Nearly all the CyberPatriot XIV participants have shipped! With the exception of teams submitting late payments, we expect all packages for teams and volunteers (technical mentors and team assistants) to be shipped prior to the State Round. We appreciate your patience and hope you enjoy the gear!

Coaches (and mentors / team assistants) who haven't already will receive a shipment confirmation email with their package is on the way.

This year, each participant is receiving a CyberPatriot XIV t-shirt (the first year we've ever had a two-color design), a CyberPatriot challenge coin with a secret message and a vinyl CyberPatriot XIV sticker.



Sponsor Spotlight

Join Gannon University representatives for an engaging session about fields in CyberSecurity!
<https://www.gannon.edu/Admissions/Undergraduate-Admissions/Visit-Gannon/>

SECURE YOUR FUTURE CAREER

ATTEND A CYBER INFORMATION SESSION

You may be wondering, "Is a cyber degree right for me?" Join us at an engaging information session to find out by connecting with experts in the fields of cybersecurity, cyber engineering, computing and technology. Talk with faculty and students from Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania to hear more about the cyber job demand and our programs, dedicated facility and labs. Gain insider advice on what it's like earning a degree and working in the field as you take the next step to become a future cyber professional.

DATE: Wednesday, Dec. 8 or Thursday, Dec. 16

TIME: 7 - 8 p.m.

WHERE: Zoom (link to be provided upon registration)

PANELISTS

Our Gannon experts will share their knowledge of the industry and our students will discuss their college and internship experiences and how they are preparing for their careers. A Q&A session will conclude our event.



KARINNA VERAZA, PH.D.
Dean, College of Engineering
and Business



WOOKWON LEE, PH.D.
Professor, Electrical and
Computer Engineering



RICHARD MATOVU, PH.D.
Assistant Professor, Cybersecurity



DONALD MACKELLAR
Assistant Professor,
Electrical and Computer
Engineering

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Current high school juniors and seniors
- Parents of high school students
- Guidance counselors and high school technology teachers
- Those with a desire to develop a career in cyber, engineering or computing

WHY ATTEND?

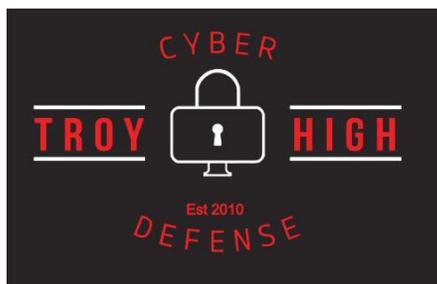
- Gain real insight. Meet and hear from professionals in the field and students who are developing their career paths.
- Find your possibilities. Talk with others who have a passion for cybersecurity, cyber engineering, technology and computing like you and learn what opportunities are available.

REGISTER TODAY
GANNON.EDU/VISIT



Participant Spotlight

Cal Poly's Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (CCDC) is 50% CyberPatriot Alumni.



Of the eight CCDC team members, four are former CyberPatriot alumni from Troy High School – Jacob Jayme (Troy '21), Gabe Fok (Troy '20) Evan Deters (Troy '21), and Jessica Leung (Troy '20) who is the only female competitor on the team.

Their former CyberPatriot coach, Allen Stubblefield, said, "I personally think that ALL of our CyberPatriot competitors can 'go pro' in cyber if cybersecurity is their thing, and CyberPatriot is a great way for students to find out if cyber is their thing! Like any other sport in high school, occasionally there are students with the skills to

take it to the next level: college. It is a nice testament to our Troy Cyber program to see that four of the eight CCDC team members from Cal Poly Pomona are Troy Cyber alumni, including the only female!"

Sarah Lee selected as SynED's September National CyberHero for her work in Middle School Cybersecurity Education. In Lee's award recognition she mentions her roots to becoming a CyberHero all started with her as a CyberPatriot coach of the Ladera Vista Middle School. Her journey led her to starting an elective cybersecurity course at the middle school where she designed the entire coursework. The demand for her cybersecurity class was through the roof with more than 150 students wanting to be in her class. She moved from being a math teacher to a cybersecurity teacher, that teaches only one math course and the rest cybersecurity courses at Ladera Vista Jr. High. Read the entire article on [SynED's September National CyberHero](#).

CyberPatriot Job Opportunity – We're hiring!

CyberPatriot is looking for a talented individual to fill its [Competition Operations Coordinator](#) position. This is a full-time, entry-level position. As this is in-office position (not remote), we are looking for candidates located in (or willing to relocate to) the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

If you are interested in applying, email your, cover letter, resume, [AFA employment application](#), and salary requirements to recruiter@afa.org. with subject line *CyberPatriot Competition Operations Coordinator*.

CyberPatriot & The News

[Northern students to participate in cyber defense competition](#) | **The Garrett County Republican**

ACCIDENT — A team of students from Northern Garrett High School is gearing up to put their cybersecurity skills to the test in CyberPatriot XIV — the 14th season of the Air Force Association's National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. Since 2009, CyberPatriot's competition has challenged teams of students to harden simulated computer systems and resolve real-life cybersecurity situations faced by industry professionals. The competition provides students hands-on experience securing computer networks while exciting, educating and motivating them toward careers in cybersecurity and other STEM fields.

[Northrop Grumman Grows Huntsville Jobs and Footprint in Support of National Security](#) | **By Kimberly Ballard**

If Huntsville had at any time in the past 75 years, shied away from very complex programs and solutions, rife with a lot of moving parts requiring a massive effort from a team of brilliant scientists to accomplish – well, we would all still be picking watercress and a gigantic boll of cotton would mark the city limits on I-565.

Holiday Gift Ideas | Top Tech Gifts 2021

Looking for some last minute gift ideas? Look no further! The CyberPatriot staff has put together a budget-friendly holiday gift guide with some the coolest tech-items out there!

1. [Wireless Bluetooth Karaoke Microphone](#) - \$30.99
2. [Luminosia Hexagon Lights \(LED Wall Lights\)](#) - \$49.97
3. [Mega Cyborg Hand STEM Experiment Kit](#) - \$29.99
4. [MelScience STEM Science Subscription Kits](#) - \$34.90/month
5. [Mattel Bloxels Build Your Own Video Game](#) - \$19.99
6. [Gunnar Gaming & Computer Glasses Enigma](#) - \$36.99
7. [Educational Insights, EII1125, Artie 3000 The Coding Robot](#) - \$69.26
8. [VTech KidiZoom Smartwatch DX2](#) (Great for Middle Schoolers) – \$49.99
9. [HidrateSpark TAP](#) (Smart water bottle that glows to remind you to drink water) - \$19.99
10. [Klutz Book of Paper Airplanes Craft Kit](#) - \$15.23

LOLs & Executables



Q. Why do computer scientists get confused between Halloween and Christmas?
A. Because Oct 31 = Dec 25



Q. Why is the number 237 magical?
A. Because it is HexED



Q. What jungle animal has only two states – jumping out and scaring people or not.
A. A Boo-lion

Jokes provided by <https://teachinglondoncomputing.org/computing-crackers/>

Text Tubes

Try to make words from the text tubes below by combining letters or a combo of letters from each of the four tubes.

