



THE CYBERSENTINEL

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

- CyberPatriot Alumni Network →
- CyberPatriot Training Round →
- Cisco NetAcad Accounts →
- CyberPatriot XV Upcoming Dates →
- CyberPatriot XV Round 1 →
- International Spin-Off →
- CyberPatriot Shoutout →
- CyberPatriot in the News →
- LOLs & Executables →



CyberPatriot Launches Alumni Network



CyberPatriot is pleased to announce the launch of the CyberPatriot Alumni Network. This exclusive group on LinkedIn is for past CyberPatriot competitors who have graduated from high school or achieved an equivalent achievement. The CyberPatriot Alumni Network is a place for CyberPatriot to pass along scholarship opportunities, internships, job opening, and volunteer and networking opportunities.

Are you a past CyberPatriot competitor or know past competitors, please share the link to the [CyberPatriot Alumni Network](#).

Current competitors that are seniors in high school will receive an invite to the CyberPatriot Alumni Network at the end of this competition season. We ask that coaches and mentors follow the [AFA CyberPatriot page](#) and do not request to join the Alumni Network.

CyberPatriot Training Round

The CyberPatriot Training Round kicks off on September 8. The round will have three practice images: a new Ubuntu 20 image along with Windows 10 and Windows 2019 server. The Training Round images are a great resource for teams since they come with answer keys for each image.



Cisco NetAcad Competition Course Account Creation



For the CyberPatriot XV season, there is a new process in place for creation of the Cisco competition course accounts. These changes are due to security upgrades on the Cisco NetAcad platform that require all accounts to be verified via an email link. Accounts need to be **created by October 10** for teams to be eligible to compete in Round 1.

Full details on the new account creation process can be found on the Coach's dashboard. An email has gone out to all registered coaches explaining the update to the Cisco NetAcad course creation.

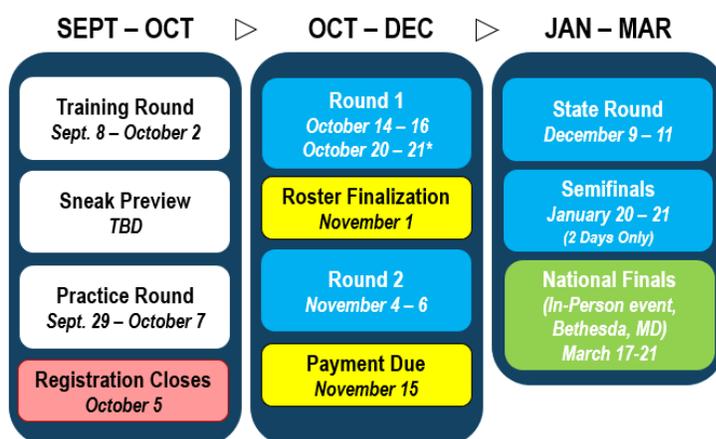
Full instructions: [https://cpxv.s3.amazonaws.com/cisco/Cisco Competition Course Onboarding.zip](https://cpxv.s3.amazonaws.com/cisco/Cisco%20Competition%20Course%20Onboarding.zip)

Instructional video: <https://youtu.be/jy0uh4soK-Q>

CyberPatriot XV Upcoming Dates

There is just one month left to register teams for CyberPatriot XV. Directions on how to register teams can be found on our website [here](#) and any question can be directed to info@uscypatriot.org.

November 1st is the last day to register competitors and to finalize team rosters. November 15th is the payment deadline where all teams should have paid their registration fee, requested a fee waiver or submitted a Purchase Order.



CyberPatriot XV Round 1

CyberPatriot will be offering two competition weekends for Round 1 for CyberPatriot XV. Setting the competition schedule for CyberPatriot is always a tedious process that involves deconflicting dates as much as possible but it's not always possible for us to avoid everything. When finalizing the dates for Round 1 this year we received feedback that for many schools, October 14-16 fell during many schools fall break. As a solution, CyberPatriot is offering three additional competition windows October 20-22 for teams to compete. Teams may only compete once during Round 1 to include the additional competition windows.

Round 1 is scheduled for Friday, October 14 – Sunday, October 16, 2022, and Thursday, October 20 – Saturday, October 22, 2022. There is NO competition window on Sunday, October 23. There will be no Emergency Competition Dates or make-up dates after October 22 so teams need to plan ahead.

Round 1 Competition Windows:

Friday, 10/14, 9:00 AM – Saturday, 3:00 AM ET
Saturday, 10/15, 8:00 AM – 11:59 PM ET
Sunday, 10/16, 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM ET

Thursday, 10/20, 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM ET
Friday, 10/21, 9:00 AM – Saturday, 3:00 AM ET
Saturday, 10/22, 8:00 AM – 11:59 PM ET

International Spin-off | CyberTitan

CyberTitan | Canada - An Interview with Timothy King



Q: How did you get started with CyberPatriot?

A: In 2017 I was reading ICTC's research on jobs for students interested in ICT careers when I saw a note about their new CyberTitan - National Student Cybersecurity Competition and looked into it. That led me to CyberPatriot so I signed up to coach and then talked 4 of my senior computer engineering students into forming a team. We didn't do well in round 1 but scored better in round 2 even though it got more challenging. By the time we hit the state round we'd gotten the basics down and did just well enough to get an invite to the semi-finals as a gold tier team. Semi-finals rocked us (it's a challenging round!), but we stuck at it and put 6 good hours in.

We were stunned to get an email from ICTC saying we'd made the top 4 teams in Eastern Canada and were invited to the first Canadian nationals in Fredericton, New Brunswick in May of 2018. We ended up finishing 5th in Canada! For 3 of our 4 team members had never been on a plane before or left our province (Ontario). It was a life-changing experience for all of us.



Q: As a coach what advice do you have for other coaches?

A: I've presented at numerous education conferences about CyberTitan/CyberPatriot (like this! <https://prezi.com/4-89upb51n18/>) and have encouraged many teachers into it. My best advice is don't be afraid!

There are many organizations (like CyberPatriot!) who want to encourage education to develop better cybersecurity awareness and training opportunities. Cyber is never as complicated as you think it is, don't let the lingo and media scare you off. Coaching girls in this subject has been especially eye opening as the mansplaining has been incredible. Don't let all that static put you off.



You have many allies who will be thrilled if you show an interest in this subject. The people in your school board's IT department will tear up when you express an interest in cybersecurity. That kind of acknowledgement is gold to IT technicians, and they'll move mountains to help you and your team get into the competition. Don't believe me? Try it!

The tricky bit is getting your hands on desktops (or laptops) that can run VMs well. This is difficult in education because so much of 'edtech' is locked down. CyberPatriot has been instrumental in helping us build our DIY computer lab at school.

You can also check out Timothy King's edu-blog about our CyberPatriot experiences:

<https://temkblog.blogspot.com/search?q=Cyberpatriot>

CyberPatriot Shoutout

Juneau Alaska CyberPatriot Camp

On July 25-29, a CyberPatriot Summer Camp was hosted at Thunder Mountain High School in Juneau, Alaska. The camp was for over 30 Alaskan Native middle and high school students, half of which were female.

The camp was led by two instructors, Allen Stubblefield, a nationally recognized CyberPatriot coach at Troy High School, Fullerton, CA, and Karen Alarcon, a Troy High School graduate (2019) and current senior at UC Berkeley majoring in cybersecurity.

1. Can you tell us about the sponsors?

The camp was sponsored locally by Goldbelt Incorporated and the Goldbelt Heritage Foundation. Goldbelt is an Alaska Native Corporation with a deep connection to our ancestors and our children – we remember the stories and traditions of the past while working to build a bright future for our more than 4,000 shareholders in Southeast Alaska and beyond.

Goldbelt Heritage Foundation (GHF) was established in 2001 and is a growing Alaska Native non-profit organization led by an Alaska Native board and leadership team. The foundation provides educational resources, curriculum, and instruction on Tlingit language, culture, and the arts provided by fluent Tlingit speakers, master artists, and cultural bearers.

Goldbelt and GHF were excited to partner with the two Goldbelt subsidiaries, Peregrine Technical Solutions, LLC and CP Marine Group, LLC, to offer cultural programming alongside the CyberPatriot training. By balancing cultural programming with technical training, GHF helps preserve indigenous identities and way of life while preparing students for future economic and political success in the broader pluralistic community.



2. You mentioned that the camp day started with cultural training. Can you tell us more about some of the traditions?

The standard CyberPatriot camp was augmented with an Alaska Native cultural aspect. The cyber camp was offered in the morning for the middle school students, while the high school students had cultural activities in the morning. After lunch, the groups switched, so that all students participated in the cultural programming which included headband regalia making instruction; students learning how to make tináa (a copper shield) necklaces; learning traditional song, dance, and drumming; taking Tlingit language classes; and learning protocols on hosting cultural events.

3. What did the campers think about the cybersecurity training?

Comment from attendee, “The cyber program was really challenging, but Karen was really nice and always helped out no matter what. She was always interested in hearing about us and open to talk about herself, her job, and the content and I never felt like I couldn't ask anything. My favorite part was learning about the commands in the terminal, and my least favorite part was also learning about the commands in terminal because of how many commands and rules you have to follow. Overall, it was a cool experience.”

4. What was a highlight from the camp?

From a CyberPatriot side, the “Kahoot” quizzes were a lot of fun for the students. They also liked the sewing and beading in the cultural portion led by GHF. A highlight of the camp was the awards ceremony, where the students performed songs and dances for the audience.

5. Do you have any additional stories you would like to share?

Comment from an attendee, “One of the speakers for tech that came in also went to Thunder Mountain High School and I thought it was funny how students can connect even if they’re years apart in grad years. And it was also neat seeing someone that went to my school and was like me, end up in the tech field.”

CyberPatriot in The News

[Top Senior Member, Cadet, Teacher, Squadron Honored](#) | From CAP News

A member of the Colorado Wing’s Air Academy Cadet Squadron since February 2016, Jones used her leadership, people skills, and work ethic as positive influences on her fellow cadets as the unit’s cadet commander. The squadron flourished under her command despite setbacks presented by COVID-19 restrictions.

[Nonprofit helps Pueblo students access computers, earn cybersecurity certifications](#) | By James Bartolo

Pueblo Centennial High School senior Ciara Reyes developed an interest in cybersecurity the summer before her freshman year, but not having a proper computer made things difficult.

[San Antonio’s CyberPatriot Community Rallies to Support Students in Uvalde, Texas](#) | By Patrick Reardon

In response to the tragedy at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, last May, an extensive network of STEM organizations assembled to provide a cybersecurity education camp for students of the rural Texas town. The initiative was spearheaded by the CyberTexas Foundation, a San Antonio-based nonprofit that is helping develop the next generation of cybersecurity workforce with one of the most successful and populous CyberPatriot programs in the country.

LOLs & Executables

Have jokes or encryption puzzles to share?

Email them to info@uscypatriot.org with the subject line *CyberSentinel Submission* and you could win CyberPatriot swag!

Why are hackers terrible at cooking?

They are always overflowing the food or injecting it with something!



Joke submitted by Vaishy Kumar