



THE CYBERSENTINEL

The official newsletter of CyberPatriot – AFA’s National Youth Cyber Education Program

APRIL 2024

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CyberPatriot XVI National Finals Recap

Congratulations to the 28 National Finalist teams who wrapped up another unbelievable season at the CyberPatriot XVI National Finals Competition on March 16-18, 2024. View photos from the event on the [Air & Space Forces Association Flickr page](#).

The main event - competition day – took place all day on Sunday, March 17th. Competitors started with the Network Security Master Challenge and wrapped up the day with the Cisco NetAcad Challenge and Boeing Cyber-Physical System Challenge.

The National Finals Competition (and CyberPatriot XVI season) ended the evening of Monday, March 18th, at the Awards Banquet. Here, the winning teams were announced and deemed National Champions. A live stream of the Awards Ceremony can be viewed on [CyberPatriot’s YouTube channel](#).



Congratulations to the winners of CyberPatriot XVI



OPEN DIVISION WINNERS

National Champion: *Half Dome*
Franklin High School (Elk Grove, CA)

Runner-Up: *CyberAegis Triton*
Del Norte High School (San Diego, CA)

Third Place: *CyberAegis Aegir*
Del Norte High School (San Diego, CA)

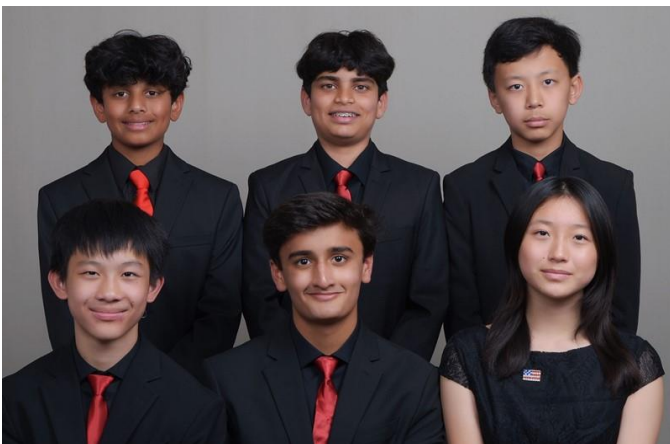


ALL SERVICE DIVISION WINNERS

National Champion: *W.A.T.T.*
Troy High School NJROTC (Fullerton, CA)

Runner-Up: *Terabyte Falcons*
Scripps Ranch High School AFJROTC (San Diego, CA)

Third Place: *TXPatriot | Carebears' Revenge*
Theodore Roosevelt High School AJROTC (San Antonio, TX)



MIDDLE SCHOOL DIVISION WINNERS

National Champion: *CyberAegis Callisto*
Oak Valley Middle School (San Diego, CA)

Runner-Up: *CyberAegis Titan*
Design 39 Campus (San Diego, CA)

Third Place: *Chunky Marios*
BSA Troop 261 (Frisco, TX)

Boeing Cyber-Physical System Challenge

In the Boeing Cyber-Physical System Challenge, teams are presented with an operational system that tracks and maintains flight information. Each team acts as a product security engineering team that has been tasked with securing the system from threats that could impact air safety.

All Divisions

1st Place: *cyb3rh0u#d5* – Carmel High School (Carmel, IN)

2nd Place: *CyberPotatoes* – Liberal Arts and Science Academy (Austin, TX)

3rd Place: *CyberAegis Triton* – Del Norte High School (San Diego, CA)



Cisco NetAcad Challenge

During the Cisco NetAcad Challenge, teams are scored on their ability to demonstrate proficiency in network security administration. Cybersecurity knowledge and skills are tested with a networking quiz and a Packet Tracer network simulation exercise.



Open Division

1st Place: *Half Dome* – Franklin High School (Elk Grove, CA)

2nd Place: *CyberAegis Aegir* – Del Norte High School (San Diego, CA)

3rd Place: *CyberAegis Triton* – Del Norte High School (San Diego, CA)

All Service Division

1st Place: *W.A.T.T.* – Troy High School NJROTC (Fullerton, CA)

2nd Place: *Terabyte Falcons* – Scripps Ranch High School Air Force JROTC (San Diego, CA)

3rd Place: *TXPatriot | Carebears' Revenge* – Roosevelt High School Army JROTC (San Antonio, TX)

Middle School Division

1st Place: *CyberAegis Callisto* – Oak Valley Middle School (San Diego, CA)

2nd Place: *CyberAegis Titan* – Design 39 Campus (San Diego, CA)

3rd Place: *Chunky Marios* – BSA Troop 261 (Frisco, TX)

CyberPatriot Cyber All-American

Also recognized at the event were four Cyber All-American award recipients. These individuals join a small group of competitors who qualified for the National Finals Competition all four years of their high school careers. Congratulations to our newest Cyber All-Americans!



ANNA WU

Troy High School



ROHAN JUNEJA

Del Norte High School



SAFIN SINGH

Del Norte High School



YANNIS SMITH

Sacramento Division

Riya Bhakkad Memorial Scholarship Program



In an exemplary union of purpose and passion, Science Systems and Applications, Inc. (SSAI) and the Bahethi Family Foundation (BFF) are partnering to provide equitable opportunities to the STEM community.

With the BFF Riya Bhakkad Memorial Scholarship Program, selected recipients will receive a scholarship award of up to \$10,000 (determined by annual tuition costs at each institution and program funding) to participate in a 12-week program working with an advisor from SSAI in a remote environment for the duration of the program.

The application window for the Summer 2024 session ends on April 12, 2024. Interested students can learn more about the program, application process and eligibility, [here](#). All questions can be referred to the program email at BFF.Internships@gmail.com.

CyberPatriot Alumni Spotlight

Jonathan Liu | CyberPatriot VII, VIII, IX, X



Like many of our alumni, Jonathan has found much success after CyberPatriot. Since graduating from UC Berkeley College of Engineering, he has had some big-name connections to include on his resume. Jonathan is now a Software Development Engineer at Amazon, specifically for Ring.

Jonathan credits CyberPatriot for influencing his future, noting that CyberPatriot not only taught him the basics of cybersecurity and computer networking, but also introduced him to the field of Computer Science. Being a part of CyberPatriot helped motivate him to pursue a Computer Science degree and ultimately lead to his career.

Jonathan gained many valuable skills and learned a lot of new information throughout his time participating in CyberPatriot, but most importantly he learned the skills to being an effective team player. He and his team certainly seemed to work well together considering Jonathan was a member of Team Togo, who were the Open Division Champions two years in a row! "Through years of competing, I

gained the skills to properly communicate, problem solve, resolve conflicts, and learn together with my team. These skills have helped me greatly during my time at Berkeley and in my day-to-day professional work."

If Jonathan could give any advice to the next generation of CyberPatriot competitors, he hopes they stay curious and continue to want to learn more every day. "One of the best ways to learn and build confidence within technology is to experiment and don't be scared to mess around with it!"

Fun Fact: Jonathan loves to travel and explore. When he has free time, you will likely catch him out on a new trail or visiting a national park. Jonathan has already been to all the national parks in Utah!



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

Time is running out to host a CyberCamp!

Registration to host a CyberCamp is open until May 1st!



CyberCamps emphasize fun, hands-on learning of cybersecurity principles that are relevant and applicable to everyday life.

The Standard CyberCamp is designed for campers who are new to the world of cybersecurity. The goal at the end of the camp is to have students ready to compete in the CyberPatriot National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. The Standard CyberCamp consists of an introduction to cybersecurity, cyber careers, the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, Windows Security Policies, auditing, Linux basics, intro to using a CLI, and command line security.

The Advanced CyberCamp option takes campers to the next level and is designed for students who may have either competed in the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition or have attended an AFA Standard CyberCamp. The Advanced CyberCamp curriculum consists of Windows graphical utilities, command line, Sysinternals Suite, Linux Init Systems, advanced command line, processes and scheduled tasks, security policies, PAM and Cisco NetAcad.

The camps include a competition for both Windows and Linux where campers are securing virtual images by finding and fixing vulnerabilities.

Host organizations can choose to host a camp during any of the available weeks. Both standard AND advanced camps are offered each week.

Find out more about CyberCamps at:

<https://www.uscyberpatriot.org/afa-cybercamps/overview>

| WEEK | DATE |
|---------|--------------------|
| Week 1 | June 3 - 7 |
| Week 2 | June 10 - 14 |
| Week 3* | June 17 - 21 |
| Week 4 | June 24 - 28 |
| Week 5 | July 8 - 12 |
| Week 6 | July 15 - 19 |
| Week 7 | July 22 - 26 |
| Week 8 | July 29 - August 2 |
| Week 9 | August 5 - 9 |

* Juneteenth will be observed on June 19, 2024. Camps can be held this week if the host organization would like, but limited tech support will be available on that Wednesday, June 19.

Join the Competition! Register now for CyberPatriot 17

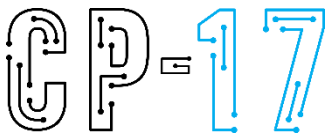
As of April 1, registration for the 17th season of CyberPatriot's National Youth Cyber Defense Competition season is open. Register your team today for the 2024-2025 season! Remember: the earlier you register, the more access to practice images and rounds your team will have.

A great resource for recruiting new and returning teams is the Exhibition Rounds. These rounds are also a great way to show potential participants what it's like to compete.

CP-17 Exhibition Round 1

May 15 to June 17, 2024

Also, register by July 1 to get 20% off the fees below:



- \$225.00 / High School Team
- \$175.00 / Middle School Team
- Fees waived for JROTC, Civil Air Patrol, and Naval Sea Cadets
- Fees waived for Title I Schools (upon request)
- Fees waived for all-girl teams (upon request)

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](#)

CyberPatriot in The News

[AFA Crowns CyberPatriot XVI Champions](#)

The 16th season of CyberPatriot came to an exciting end on March 18, with the announcement of the winners of the Air & Space Forces Association's (AFA) annual National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. The competition field started with 5,183 teams and just 28 qualified for the National Finals.

Thank you to all the CyberPatriot Sponsors who make our program possible:

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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.*