THE CYBERSENTINEL

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

APRIL 2025

CyberPatriot 17 National Finals Recap

Congratulations to the National Finalist teams who wrapped up another unbelievable season at the CyberPatriot 17 National Finals Competition on March 15-17, 2025. 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 16th. Competitors started with the Network Security Master Challenge and wrapped up the day with the Cisco NetAcad Challenge and Boeing Cyber-Physical Systems Challenge.

The National Finals Competition (and CyberPatriot 17 season) ended the evening of Monday, March 17th, 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.
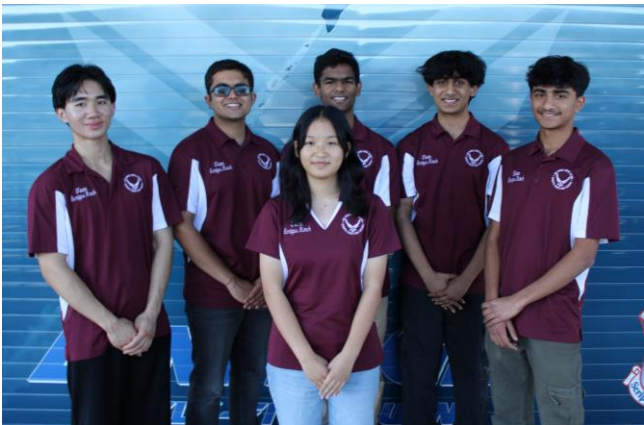
Congratulations to the winners of CyberPatriot 17

OPEN DIVISION WINNERS

National Champion: *CyberAegis Phoenix*
Scouting America Exploring Post 2928 (San Diego, CA)

Runner-Up: *Half Dome*
Franklin High School (Elk Grove, CA)

Third Place: *TitanTurtles*
Westview High School (Portland, OR)

ALL SERVICE DIVISION WINNERS

National Champion: *Terabyte Falcons*
Scripps Ranch High School AFJROTC (San Diego, CA)

Runner-Up: *coast2coast*
Troy High School NJROTC (Fullerton, CA)

Third Place: *The Chill Guys*
Miami Beach Senior High NROTC (Miami Beach, FL)

MIDDLE SCHOOL DIVISION WINNERS

National Champion: *CyberAegis Odyssey*
Scouting America Exploring Club 2927 (San Diego, CA)

Runner-Up: *CyberAegis Stardust*
Scouting America Exploring Club 2929 (San Diego, CA)

Third Place: *Sentinel Rock*
Toby Johnson Middle School (Elk Grove, CA)

Boeing Cyber-Physical Systems Challenge

In the Boeing Cyber-Physical Systems 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 Winners
1st Place: *The Chill Guys* - Miami Beach Senior High NJROTC (Miami Beach, FL)
2nd Place: *garfieldLasagnaMonday89* - Thomas Jefferson High School (Alexandria, VA)
3rd Place: *Terabyte Falcons* - Scripps Ranch High School AFJROTC (San Diego, CA)

Cisco NetAcad Challenge

During the Cisco NetAcad Challenge, teams had three components to complete in 90 minutes. They were required to manage and troubleshoot network security components in a hands-on exercise, a Cisco networking quiz covered what they learned this season and for the first time, teams were presented with a physical component which was similar to a "scavenger hunt." The teams had to physically create a Cat5 cable to connect a VOIP phone to a network and find physical, verbal, and written clues to complete a complex task.

Open Division Winners
1st Place: *Runtime Terror* - Troy High School (Fullerton, CA)
2nd Place: *FNASA* - William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute (North York, ON)
3rd Place: *CyberAegis Phoenix* - Scouting America Exploring Post 2928 (San Diego, CA)

All Service Division Winners
1st Place: *coast2coast* - Troy High School NJROTC (Fullerton, CA)
2nd Place: *Cyber Monkeys* - Burke Composite Squadron CAP (Springfield, VA)
3rd Place: *Terabyte Falcons* - Scripps Ranch High School AFJROTC (San Diego, CA)

Middle School Division Winners
1st Place: *CyberAegis Odyssey* - Scouting America Exploring Club 2927 (San Diego, CA)
2nd Place: *CyberAegis Stardust* - Scouting America Exploring Club 2929 (San Diego, CA)
3rd Place: *Sentinel Rock* - Toby Johnson Middle School (Elk Grove, CA)

CyberPatriot Cyber All-American

Also recognized at the event were three new Cyber All-American award recipients: Pratham Rangwala, Ethan Zhao & Priyam Rangwala. 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!

Time is running out to host a CyberCamp!

Registration to host a CyberCamps is open until May 1, 2025.

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 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.

During each AFA CyberCamp, campers are immersed in a mock competition where they work on 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.

Click here to learn more about CyberCamps today!

WEEK	DATE
Week 1	June 2 - 6
Week 2	June 9 - 13
Week 3	June 16 - 20
Week 4	June 23 - 27
Week 5	July 7 - 11
Week 6	July 14 - 18
Week 7	July 21 - 25
Week 8	July 28 - August 1
Week 9	August 4 - 8
Week 10	August 11 - 15

Join the Competition! Register now for CyberPatriot 18

As of April 1, registration for the 18th season of CyberPatriot's National Youth Cyber Defense Competition season is open. Register your team today for the 2025-26 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-18 Exhibition Round 1:
Coming May 2025

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 & all girl teams (upon request)

Returning Coaches:	New Coaches:
Use your existing CyberPatriot volunteer account to sign in and register your new team(s) for the upcoming competition season. Teams DO NOT carry over from last season.	Create a CyberPatriot volunteer account, then sign in to the dashboard to register your teams(s) for the upcoming competition season.

FULL REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS HERE

Sponsor Highlight: Gannon University

CyberPatriot in the News

City school board recognizes Cyber Cats

The Scottsboro Junior High Cyber Cats were recognized for their performance at the state CyberPatriot competition. Scottsboro Junior High School had three teams that competed at the state event. Of the three, one team won the state championship and another was the runner-up. All three teams participated in the national semi-final round in January.

AFA Congratulates CyberPatriot National Champions

CyberPatriot's 17th season came to an exciting end on March 17, 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 5,050 teams and just 28 qualified for the National Finals.

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

Cyber Platinum Sponsors	NORTHROP GRUMMAN FOUNDATION
Cyber Diamond Sponsors	CISCO
Cyber Gold Sponsors	AIR & SPACE STEM Outreach BOEING
Cyber Silver Sponsors	American Military University (AMU) CISA Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency EMBRY-RIDDLE Aeronautical University FLORIDA | ARIZONA | ONLINE leidos NORWICH UNIVERSITY

Want to be featured in the next edition of the CyberSentinel?
Please send email highlights or accolades to info@uscyberpatriot.org.