

For Immediate Release
March 18, 2014

Teams Gear Up for National Finals of Largest Youth Cyber Defense Competition

ARLINGTON, Va. – CyberPatriot VI will culminate next week with the National Finals Competition on March 28-29 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Md. Twenty-six teams of high school students and two teams of middle school students are gearing up to compete in one last round of challenges to win top honors in the competition's Open and All Service high school divisions – and the competition's newest addition, a Middle School division.

CyberPatriot—The National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, an education initiative established by the Air Force Association, is a one-of-a-kind cyber defense competition designed to inspire students to consider science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields in their studies. The unique structure helps to develop college- and career-ready students with not only computer and technical skills, but also invaluable experience in teamwork, leadership, and critical-thinking. Competitors also benefit from the insights and technical expertise of industry leaders, including CyberPatriot's presenting sponsor the Northrop Grumman Foundation.

This year's finalists represent Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia, and the Manitoba province of Canada. Join the National Finals Competition conversation on social media by following us at @CyberPatriot and using the #CP6Finals hashtag on Twitter, or by liking the CyberPatriot Facebook page – www.facebook.com/CyberPatriot.

For more information about CyberPatriot and the CyberPatriot Finals, go to www.uscyberpatriot.org.

For Media: All accredited members of the media are invited to attend the CyberPatriot VI National Finals Competition and Awards Banquet.

- Brigadier General Bernie Skoch (USAF, Ret.), CyberPatriot National Commissioner, will be available for interviews. He oversees the planning and implementation of CyberPatriot, as well as provides leadership and support for the program's development.
- Diane Miller, Northrop Grumman Program Director for CyberPatriot, will also be available for interviews to discuss critical cybersecurity workforce needs.

Contact Merri Shaffer at mshaffer@afa.org to set up interviews with team coaches, competitors, and technical mentors. Media registration can be found here: <https://olereg.com/afa/login.aspx?event=Cyber2014@type=Media>.

The Air Force Association is a non-profit, independent, professional military and aerospace education association. Our mission is to promote a dominant United States Air Force and a strong national defense, and to honor Airmen and our Air Force Heritage. To accomplish this, we:

- EDUCATE the public on the critical need for unmatched aerospace power and a technically superior workforce to ensure U.S. national security.
- ADVOCATE for aerospace power and STEM education.
- SUPPORT the Total Air Force family and promote aerospace education.

AFA has 200 chapters nationally and internationally representing more than 100,000 members. Visit AFA at www.afa.org.

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Blogger!

