



## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release March 11, 2015

## Air Force Reserve Signs on as a Cyber Silver Sponsor of the Air Force Association's CyberPatriot Program

ARLINGTON, Va - The Air Force Association today announced that the Air Force Reserve, the federally controlled Air Reserve component of the U.S. Air Force, has partnered with CyberPatriot, the National Youth Cyber Education Program as a Cyber Silver sponsor.

The Air Force Reserve operates in various locations around the world and currently performs traditional flying missions and other more specialized missions, such as weather reconnaissance, aerial firefighting, and personnel recovery. Cyberspace presents an ever increasing challenge to our nation's security and the Reserve Cyberspace Operations and Cyberspace Systems are critical components.

"We are extremely excited to gain the support of the Air Force Reserve," said Bernie Skoch, CyberPatriot National Commissioner. "Our mission is dedicated to educating today's youth to be tomorrow's leaders in STEM. We look forward to expanding the program and making a larger impact on STEM education throughout the world with the support of the Air Force Reserve and our other sponsors."

More than 2,100 teams from all 50 states, Canada and DoD Dependent Schools in Europe and the Pacific signed up to compete in the 2014-2015 season of CyberPatriot, which will conclude with the CyberPatriot VII National Finals Competition later this week.

CyberPatriot, the nation's largest and fastest growing youth cyber education program, is the Air Force Association's flagship STEM initiative dedicated to strengthening cyber skills among American youth and exciting students toward careers in STEM. Students in the program gain valuable knowledge from the expertise of CyberPatriot's many supporters, including the Northrop Grumman Foundation, CyberPatriot's presenting sponsor. Other program sponsors include Cyber Diamond sponsors AT&T Federal and the AT&T Foundation, Cisco, Microsoft, USA Today, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense; Cyber Gold sponsors Facebook, Riverside Research, Splunk, Symantec, and URS; and Cyber Silver sponsors Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Leidos, MIT Lincoln Laboratory, and University of Maryland University College.

For more information about CyberPatriot, please visit www.uscyberpatriot.org.

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.

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