SAN ANTONIO—The Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security (CIAS) at The University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA) is preparing for the CyberPatriot X National Finals Competition. The Finals will welcome the top three Middle School Division Teams, 12 Open Division Teams and 13 All Service Division Teams for top honors and scholarships. It will be held in Baltimore, Md., April 15-19, 2018.

CyberPatriot is the Air Force Association’s National Youth Cyber Education Program designed to inspire students toward careers in cybersecurity or other science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines critical to our nation’s future. The CIAS designs, builds and supplies the technology and virtual machines used in the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition component of the program that allow students to participate from around the world.

“The CIAS team is proud to once again support the CyberPatriot competition,” said Dr. Gregory White, director of the CIAS. “As a founding partner and current technology provider, we’re excited to be part of a competition that is actively engaging middle and high school students – future cyber professionals – to obtain the knowledge and flexibility needed to adapt to changes in a cyber security landscape.”

A total of 5,587 teams registered to compete in the 2017-2018 competition and represent all 50 states and U.S. Department of Defense schools around the world. With approximately 28,000 participants, CyberPatriot is the largest cyber defense competition in the world.

“Competitions provide an excellent venue to exercise existing skills or develop new ones and provide practical, hands-on experience that goes beyond traditional lab and classroom instruction,” said Jessica Archer, director of external relations at the CIAS. “These competitions would not be possible without the hard work of our staff and community partners.”

The CIAS conducts a variety of competitions each year that are developed specifically for industry professionals, college students and high school students. In addition to CyberPatriot, the CIAS conducts the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (NCCDC) and Panoply, a network security competition.

For more information about CyberPatriot or the CIAS competitions, visit CIAS.UTSA.edu/competitions.

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