**The Genesee Valley Chapter of the Air Force Association Announces Opportunities for Rochester Area Schools**

1. **CyberPatriot-The National Youth Cyber Education Program.**

CyberPatriot is the National Youth Cyber Education Program. At the center of CyberPatriot is the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition. The competition puts teams of high school and middle school students in the position of newly hired IT professionals tasked with managing the network of a small company. In the rounds of competition, teams are given a set of virtual images that represent operating systems and are tasked with finding cybersecurity vulnerabilities within the images and hardening the system while maintaining critical services in a six hour period. Teams compete for the top placement within their state and region, and the top teams in the nation earn all-expenses paid trips to Baltimore, MD for the National Finals Competition where they can earn national recognition and scholarship money. Learn more at wwwus@erpatriot org,

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*Chapter 308 will sponsor at least one team from the Rochester areafinancially and will endorse any others that sign up. Through an arrangement with Air Force ROTC Detachment 538 at RIT, ROTC cadets enrolled in Computer Science (or a related curriculum) may be available as team mentors.*

1. **AFA Education and Teacher of the Year Programs**

The Air Force Association is dedicated to ensuring America's aerospace excellence and supports the teachers that carry out this mission in the classroom. AFA supports K-12 teachers who specialize in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM fields) through programs such as the Teacher of the Year award, Aerospace Education Grants for educators, Civil Air Patrol's free STEM ED programs, the AFA Air Museum Initiative, and Visions of Exploration. Could your classroom benefit from any of these programs? Learn more at Www.afa.org/informationfor/teachers

Along with grants and scholarships, the Air Force Association believes that recognizing those who educate America's youth is an important aspect of what AFA is all about. AFA chapters nationwide work very hard to insure our youth receive education in math and the sciences and that those who teach and support the educators are recognized. The purpose of the program is to recognize classroom teachers at the chapter level for their accomplishments and achievements in exciting K-12 students about STEM and preparing them to use and contribute to tomorrow's technologies. This is a unique opportunity for chapters to reward special teachers who are furthering excellence and making coming to class an adventure. The program runs from May 1 - April 30.

1. **Air Force Junior ROTC**

The Air Force is interested in exploring opportunities to start at Junior ROTC program in the Rochester area. There is already significant interest in getting this program started and a wealth of military, veteran and community support to stand by this initiative. If you school is interested in hosting the AF Junior ROTC unit or participating in a program at a neighboring school (once established) please contact us to learn more about this opportunity.

For further information please contact AFA Chapter 308 President Alfred E. Smith alfredesmith@mac.com

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