# STELLAR X PLORERS



# UNIQUE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The Air Force Association (AFA) has created a program designed to inspire and attract high school students to pursue science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education and careers. Building on the remarkable success of our nationally recognized CyberPatriot National Youth Cyber Education Program, this new endeavor is an exciting, space-focused competition, called StellarXplorers.

The vision for the program is to provide a hands-on, high school, space design challenge involving all aspects of space systems development and operation with a spacecraft and payload focus. The goal is to create a fun experience that can be offered to large numbers of students with diverse interests and academic abilities, while exposing them to a dynamic, challenging industry critical to the American way of life.



## STELLARXPLORERS =

StellarXplorers registration opens May 1st each year. Teams come from high schools, Boy and Girl Scouts, Boys & Girls Clubs, or any high school-aged organization. Teams consist of an adult Team Director (usually a teacher) and two to six students. Team Mentors with space expertise are available to assist in-person or via the internet. A nominal registration fee is payable prior to the first competition round in January.

Academic modules, systems training, and multiple practice competition rounds are provided for team education and preparation. The qualifying rounds, conducted remotely to the team's home base, occur early in each year. Quarter- and semi-final rounds determine which teams will receive all-expense-paid trips to the Finals and Culminating Events, held in the Spring.



# THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SPACE COMPETITION

#### STUDENTS =

- Provides an exciting, hands-on learning experience, developing knowledge and skills that are commercially valuable.
- Increases appreciation for the critical and expanding roles space systems play in our daily lives.
- Maps a pathway to challenging and rewarding career opportunities.
- It's lots of FUN!

### TEACHERS & MENTORS :

- Provides interesting and relevant educational material to supplement existing curricula.
- Enhances knowledge of a subject of critical importance in our daily lives, and to our nation.
- Allows mentors the opportunity to share their passion and knowledge for an enterprise they have chosen as their life's work.

### PARTNERS & SPONSORS

- Enhanced relations with local communities and partners, boosting their national reputation for corporate citizenship.
- Heightened visibility, and ability to interact with a pipeline of technically proficient future employees.
- Opportunities to interact with key clients & stakeholders, reinforcing the sponsor's dedication to the space missions of their principal customers.
- Contributes to the competitiveness and security of our nation.

#### CONTACT :

Stephen Gourley at: 720-253-3474 stephen.k.gourley@gmail.com

Aaron Cannon at: 703-247-5800, ext 4899 stellarxplorers@afa.org

StellarXplorers.org

