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New York City Youth Tackles Cybercrime Using Innovative Ecosystem, Earning Praise From US Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney

New York, NY, August 4, 2021 -- Cyber defense ecosystem [Cyber Nation Central](#), in collaboration with New York City, the City University of New York (CUNY) and its [Recovery Corps Program](#) launched its Summer 2021 Analyst Internship focused on engaging New York City youth in tackling the global \$6trn cybercrime problem.

Cyber Nation Central and its think tank division – Cyber Frontiers – officially welcomed 14 Baruch and Hunter College students hand-selected from a pool of 5,000 Recovery Corps Program applicants for its rigorous six-week internship.

As part of Cyber Nation Central’s ongoing efforts in building a stronger ecosystem of cyber defense and cybersecurity for the private and government sectors of the United States and its allies, students will focus on supporting cyberbreach prevention efforts for organizations locally, nationally and around the globe. In addition, they will learn how to develop and manage all aspects of a business, all in an effort to rebuild New York in a post pandemic era.



(Cyber Nation Central’s Summer Analyst Class with CEO Andrzej Cetnarski, seated on the far right)

Over the six-week program, Alex Rojas, Amie Lin, Dong Shao, Jafrin Uddin, Joanne Trac, Lylia Saurel, Matthew Ming, Mena Bebawy, Osmar Perez, Raymond Kwok, Reekha Shadid, Shezan Alam, Vivian Ma and Yifei Wu will not only themselves learn but also help bring the best cyber defense technologies, behavioral best practices and geopolitical and board strategies to Cyber Nation Central’s executive audience as part of the ecosystem’s “Cybersecure 10,000 Leaders Campaign,” aimed at teaching organizational culture leaders authentic cyber defense leadership.

These young leaders will be in charge of an individual project that will hone their learning and execution skills and will also compete in two groups on building a micro-company teaching cyber breach prevention to organizational leaders nationally and globally. This hands-on experience will teach them how to develop and grow a company from the ground up, with the winning prize helping fund a portion of their college tuitions.

The multicultural class of Summer 2021 is “bright, driven, accomplished, and invigorated. I am so proud of this group,” said Andrzej Cetnarski, Founder & CEO of Cyber Nation Central. “They are the top students in computer science, marketing, psychology, and media studies, and are eager to participate in Cyber Nation Central’s mission to create a more cybersecure physical nation for the United States and our global allies. Furthermore, at a time when diversity is more important than ever, I am proud to have such a multi-ethnic, multi-racial, polyglot group of young leaders take on the \$6trn cybercrime economy,” he said. Summer Analysts represent nine non-white racial backgrounds, 12 speak



foreign languages, one third identifies as LGBTQ and 92% identify as immigrants or first-generation immigrants.

Cetnarski, who holds degrees from Harvard University, Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania's Lauder Institute, and University of Chicago, identifies as gay and is an immigrant himself, sees these students' unique and diverse backgrounds as a gateway to a greater democracy.

Shezan Alam, a Hunter College student majoring in computer science, says this internship allows him to be a part of the greater effort to fight cybercrime. "Working for Cyber Nation Central is not only teaching me how to navigate safely the digital world, but giving me the opportunity to help teach executives how to build stronger cultures of cybersecurity, a critical area of focus for our world at the moment," he said. Alam serves as the CEO for the micro-company he's developing with his team of Summer Analysts.

For Joanne Trac, a Baruch graduate student majoring in Marketing Analytics who serves as Chief Marketing Officer on her team, joining the CUNY Corps summer program was a way to give back to the city she calls home, while learning about the cyber defense industry. "We hit the ground running here at Cyber Nation Central, and it truly has been an exciting learning experience, especially to be working directly with the founder of the company, Andrzej. We are being challenged every day, and as a result I have already learned and grown so much," she said.

Both schools congratulated their students for their engagement in the city's recovery. "Our team at Starr is proud of our work with CUNY Recovery Corps to connect more than 320 Baruch students with businesses and organizations that need high-caliber talent to help New York City recover from the Covid-19 pandemic," said Ellen Stein, Director of the Starr Career Development Center at Baruch College.

"One such local business is Manhattan-based Cyber Nation Central, where eight Baruch students are meeting a critical need in the digital infrastructure. The cybersecurity industry is a prime example of how the College's intensive focus on technology and career development will help to produce the next generation of leaders in the innovation economy."

The internship also received praise from Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, Andrzej Cetnarski's former boss when he interned in her Manhattan district office over two decades ago, the very district from which he is currently driving cyber defense leadership across New York City, State, nationwide, and globally. Hon. Maloney, a staunch supporter of New York City Youth, the CUNY Recovery Corps Program and both Baruch and Hunter Colleges, both of which are in her district, said: "I applaud Cyber Nation Central, the City University of New York, and its Recovery Corps Program for their laudable efforts of teaching New York City youth about careers in cybersecurity and tech with their Summer 2021 Analyst Internship. The threat of cyberattacks and hackings will only persist as technology becomes more advanced, and it is more important than ever to train the next generation of cybercrime experts."

ABOUT CYBER NATION CENTRAL: Founded out of New York City in 2016 by Andrzej Cetnarski, Cyber Nation Central is a U.S. cyber-defense ecosystem driving global value for the United States and its allies in areas of (1) cyber breach prevention, (2) 24/7 cyber breach incident response, (3) investment into and advisory of cybersecurity technology ventures, and (4) cyber defense thought leadership, thus empowering industry and government executive leaders with strategic and tactical cyber threat counter measures.

As the first-of-its-kind ecosystem in the market, focused on fostering a strong public-private partnership, the ecosystem seeks to stimulate technological innovation in cybersecurity and bring this innovation, along strategic advisory, to corporations and governments seeking solutions to problems facing the cybersecurity of national infrastructure. For additional information on Cyber Nation Central visit www.cybernationcentral.com or contact: media@cybernationcentral.com

ABOUT CUNY RECOVERY CORPS: CUNY Recovery Corps is a Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) internship experience for 5,000 CUNY undergraduates, where CUNY Recovery Corps interns work to help revitalize, reinvigorate, and rebuild NYC after the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the Program, students are working on projects supporting New York City's small businesses, public health organizations, community-based nonprofits, government agencies and schools. For more information, visit: www.cuny.edu/recovery-corps