

AFA's CAP AEROSPACE EDUCATION CADET OF THE YEAR AWARD

**2020 Recipient:
C/Capt Grayson C. Logan
NER-MA-007, Goddard Cadet Squadron**



Nominated by: Dr. LouAnn Maffei-Iwuc, Lt Col, Deputy Commander

C/Capt Grayson Logan has been an integral part of Goddard Cadet Squadron since his join date in February 2017, serving as First Sergeant (2017-2018), Flight commander (2018-2019), and Cadet Commander (since September 2019). In a squadron comprised of 35 cadets, Cadet Logan stands in distinction with his strong interest and leadership in Aerospace Education, where he has led both squadron and Wing AE programs. He has been an AFA CyberPatriot team member for the last three years, having led the team to State Platinum level 2019 & 2020.

Additionally, Cadet Logan has been an Hour of Code mentor for middle school students, is a strong athlete, and coaches youth in soccer. He has been his school system's representative with the MA Governor's Leadership Project to advance the ideal of "service to others" through service projects on Martin Luther King Jr. Day annually.

Cadet Logan has been an honor student at Grafton High School in S Grafton, MA, throughout his middle and high school career, having just graduated with a 4.53 weighted (4.00 unweighted) GPA and a class rank of 5/204. Cadet Logan was National Honor Society Treasurer 2018-2020, Student Council Member 2018-2020, and Senior Class Secretary while excelling in AP Calculus, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science, Statistics, and Language/Composition courses.

Cadet Logan's Post Secondary Objectives as Listed on His Resume':

To be accepted into one of the Nation's Service Academies to study aeronautical or astronautical engineering, to qualify as a military pilot / aviator, and to contribute to our Nation's Space Program.

* UPDATE: As of June 2020, Cadet Logan has been accepted into both the US Naval Academy and the USAFA, and was wait-listed at the US Coast Guard Academy. Cadet Logan selected the USNA due to emphasis on leadership before academics. This fall, he will be attending the USNA in Annapolis, MD, majoring in Aeronautical Engineering, with a focus on Astronautics.

Cadet Logan earned an AOPA You Can Fly High School Flight Scholarship of \$10,000, and a CAP National Flight Scholarship of \$1,000, and, as soon as flight training programs continue amidst COVID-19 closures, he will complete his final 15 hours toward his PPC.

It appears Cadet Logan is well on his way to achieving his post-secondary goals!

It is with great enthusiasm and pride that Cadet Captain Grayson C. Logan is submitted as the 2020 AFA National CAP Aerospace Cadet of the Year awardee.

CAP Aerospace Education Involvement:

1- CAP AE Leadership- Cadet Officer in Charge 2017-2020:

a. Cadet Logan's initial presentation focused on NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS). After giving a Power Point presentation regarding TESS, each cadet and senior member had the opportunity to don 3-D glasses and witness a simulation of a slight drop in a "star's" brightness caused by a "planetary" transit across that "star." It was fascinating. Cadet Logan provided updates on TESS throughout the year.

b. In January 2019, Cadet Logan spearheaded an Aerospace Excellence (AEX) activity that was most impressive. In the first segment, Cadet Logan, along with assistant cadet AE officers, Cadets Durgin & Pigeon, reviewed the basics of aerodynamics: Newton's Laws of Motion; the four forces of flight; Bernoulli's principle; and the sequence of flight. Then, to the amazement of all, the cadets sat down at 22 computers-- each loaded with a flight simulator program. Cadet Logan was instrumental in ensuring there were enough computers for all cadets in attendance by borrowing and setting up the software in these computers. It was phenomenal!

c. During the summer of 2019, Cadet Logan continued to work with his cadet Aerospace Education team to provide hands-on activities for the cadets. Some examples include circular-winged aircraft and an introduction to aeronautical maps and flight planning. This program included an August 2019 AEX hovercraft aircraft activity at Trout Brook Reservation in Jefferson, Massachusetts. The squadron had attempted this activity three years prior without success. Cadet Logan's hovercraft were impressive for

the most part (there were a few duds!). As of the autumn of 2019, the squadron has been working on Basic & Advanced Model Rocketry.

2- Cyber Security Leadership:

- a. Cadet Logan attended the CAP Cyber Defense Training Academy in July 2018.
- b. Cadet Logan has participated in the AFA's CyberPatriot program 2017-2020. He has been the lead on our AFA CyberPatriot team since August 2018, leading the team to the Platinum level within the Commonwealth 2018-2019.
- c. Making use of his expertise, he developed a two-part Aerospace Excellence (AEX) activity focusing on Continuous Network Cartography (CIS). CIS is utilized to repeatedly map applications, components, and services of complex computer networks over time. I am not a computer "geek," but I can tell you that both in January and February 2019, these presentations held the cadets' attention and provided hands-on activities to reinforce content.

Initiative and Determination:

1. Cadet Logan has applied for and attended the following:

Summer 2018:

- a. Attended NER National Powered Flight Academy, ME - earned solo Wings
- b. Attended Cyber Defense Training Academy at Capital Guardian NG Youth Challenge facility, MD
- c. MAWG Summer Encampment Flight Sergeant December 2018
- d. Attended Northeast Regional Cadet Leadership School at CT NG Camp Ninatic-Valedictorian of his Flight Summer 2019

Summer 2019:

- e. Attended Cadet Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL Cadet Officer School
 - Learned about leadership and officership for two weeks
 - Critically analyzed decision-making processes, leadership models, and personal values
 - Tested ability to work in a team under extreme stress
- f. Attended US Naval Academy Summer Seminar (NASS), Annapolis, MD
 - Experienced 5-day intense physical & academic training similar to that of midshipmen
- g. Attended US Coast Guard Academy Introductory Mission (AIM), CT
 - Mental fortitude and physical toughness tested during a week-long Swab Summer experience

August 2017, 2018, and 2019:

h. Attended MAWG Encampment at Joint Base Cape Cod- 2019,
- Squadron Commander of 30 cadets, ages 12-20- awarded Honor Squadron of the
Encampment for exemplary performance

2. In April 2019, our squadron traveled to California for an AE field trip. Cadet Logan enjoyed San Diego's Air & Space Museum. However, he was enthralled by our tour of a US Naval helicopter squadron on North Island Naval Air Station. He has since applied for and his hoping for acceptance to the US Naval Academy (in addition to the US AF Academy and the US Coast Guard Academy).

3. After successfully completing his first solo flight at the 2018 NE Region Powered Flight Academy, he requested letters of recommendation in May 2019 for two flight scholarships for which he applied and was a recipient: AOPA You Can Fly High School Flight Scholarship, \$10,000 and CAP, National Flight Scholarship, \$1,000.

CAP Associated Awards and Recognition:

In July 2019, Cadet Logan earned the prestigious Amelia Earhart award through sustained excellence in all 4 areas of cadet life: leadership, aerospace, fitness, and character, as well as passing comprehensive leadership and aerospace exams. He was presented the award by the squadron and MAWG commanders, as well as the MA Adjutant General. He is now working toward Phase IV, which when fulfilled, will lead to the coveted Spaatz exam and award.

Other CAP Awards:

- 1- 2018 Honor Cadet of the Year
- 2- Squadron Aerospace Education Officer of 2018
- 3- Cadet Leader, Annual MAWG Conference Safety Display Competition: First Place
2018, 2019
- 4- Color Guard Team Deputy Commander, 2018 - 2019
 - Led team to place second in the state two years in a row
 - Fittest Cadet of the Year 2018
 - MAWG Color Guard Commander of the Year 2019
- 5- 2018 MAWG Encampment: Honor Squadron Commander
- 6- 2018 CAP's Veteran of Foreign Wars Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year

Academics and Athletics:

1- Honor Student at Grafton High School
Coursework includes: AP Calculus, AP Chemistry, AP Physics, AP Computer Science, AP
Statistics, and AP Language and Composition

- Grafton Class of 2020 Secretary and Student Council Member, 2016 - present

- National Honor Society, Treasurer, 2018 - present
- GPA: Weighted - 4.53; Unweighted - 4.00
- Class Rank: 5 / 204

2- High School and Club Soccer Teams:

Elite Clubs National League (ECNL) Soccer 2017-2018, Club Soccer 2012-2019, NEFC and FC Stars

- Starting center midfielder for team in the highest division of U.S. Youth Soccer
- Participated in 2017 invitation-only college identification program at U.S. Air Force Academy Varsity Soccer Grafton High School, 2016 - present
- Senior Captain 2019; Interim Captain 2017; Starting Center Midfielder 2017, 2018, and 2019
- Southern Worcester County League Division 1 All Star Midfielder 2019

Community Service:

1- Grafton Town Summer Soccer Clinic, Volunteer Counselor , 2018 - 2019

- Coached basic soccer skills, strategies, and teamwork for youth aged 7-

15 2- Project 351, Ambassador / Alumni , 2016 - present

● Youth Volunteer / Leadership Project to advance the ideal of “service to others”; one student is chosen from each of Massachusetts' 351 school districts every year to represent their town working on a Governor-sponsored project on Martin Luther King Jr. Day

● As an alumnus, participates in reunion events and mentor other Project 351 representatives from Grafton

3- Hour of Code (hourofcode.com), Mentor, 2017 - 2018

● Taught middle school students basic programming techniques in order to spark their interest in STEM and computer science

- Current as of May 2020