



2022

## Frank Brewer Memorial Aerospace Award - Cadet Category

**Cadet Major Rylee Jean Schmuck**  
River City Cadet Squadron  
Indiana Wing

Cadet Rylee Schmuck joined Civil Air Patrol in 2018 and hit the ground running. She has a passion for aerospace and all science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) topics. Not content to just passively learn, Schmuck wanted to bring STEM to every student in her community.

She developed an aerospace education outreach program between CAP, the local school district and the Air Force Association that led to the district's state elementary STEM certification. Her program boosted aerospace education members living in Indiana from zero to nearly 20 and resulted in Aerospace Connections in Education being launched in 100% of the district's fifth-grade classrooms. In three elementary schools, 100% of the students are using CAP AE lessons and STEM kits, and she has plans to expand the program to the junior high in 2022. Schmuck is a member of the school district's STEM Team and works with district leaders to continue their STEM class development.

In October 2021, Schmuck designed, planned and facilitated a STEM Camp, using CAP STEM Kits and personnel from CAP, the Air Force Association, and teachers. The camp provided hands-on STEM experiences for over 10% of the school district's elementary students. When the camp expanded to junior high students in 2022, Schmuck drew additional support from local businesses who provided engineers and subject matter experts to further enhance the experience for older students.

Her initiative and dedication to building a perpetual AE opportunity for her community resulted in Civil Air Patrol being a well-known organization in the community and a significant educational partner for the schools.

Schmuck was also very active in bringing AE to her fellow cadets. She led her unit through CAP's Model Rocketry program and organized lessons, arranged for cadets to take tests and scheduled launches. Over 30% of her unit has completed the program with a dozen more steadily progressing.

She has served as a national ambassador for CAP's Aerospace Connections in Education since the program's inception. In this role, she has provided numerous virtual and in-person lectures and mentoring to personnel around the country.

Schmuck earned the Amelia Earhart Award in CAP's cadet program and continues to advance toward the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award. Despite a rigorous school honors program, school sports and a job, she continues to find time to support ACE lessons in local schools and after-school programs.