



PRESS RELEASE

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Griffiss Institute hosts the 2023 annual Summer Camps

Registration to open May 22nd at 11 am

ROME, NY (May 14, 2023) – This summer, the Air Force Research Lab Information Directorate in partnership with the Griffiss Institute (GI) is hosting the 2023 AFRL STEM Camps at Innovare Advancement Center. The 2023 STEM Summer Camps provide opportunities for students to further their education beyond the classroom. Students learned real skills that will be directly applied to STEM careers and education.

This year GI is offering nine in-person STEM Camps. Parents can sign students up on the Griffiss Institute website at 11 am on Monday, May 22, 2023. All camps are free of charge courtesy of the new 2023 STEM grant funding.

Once parents fill out the initial interest form, a confirmation email will be sent letting them know if the student is enrolled or is on the waiting list.

Registration links to all camps can be found at: [GriffissInstitute.org/SummerSTEM](https://www.griffissinstitute.org/SummerSTEM)

“The Air Force Research Lab Information Directorate is excited to offer the 2023 lineup of STEM Summer Camps. This year, we are offering Arduino Camp, LEGO Robotics Camp, Drone Camp, Quantum Camp, Cyber Camp, Principles of Flight, Engineering Camp, and a brand-new Sphero camp for students grades 3-5. Camps will be held at the Innovare Advancement Center, which is an excellent venue for the camps. We believe this summer will be just as successful as past summers.” **said Jeff DeMatteis, AFRL STEM lead.**

The full list of 2023 Camps being offered is listed below. Children can only participate in those camps designed for their age group. There are no exceptions to age and grade requirements. Grade requirements are based on the grade child will be going into in the fall of 2023.

LEGO Robotics Camp

Students learn how to command robots to do their bidding. But first, students must speak their robot's native language. Over the course of 5 days, students will design and build their robot, program it to solve challenges on a LEGO game board and fix their robot's code, or even attachments when it inevitably does not do what they expected it to do the first time.

Dates: Monday, August 21- Friday, August 25, 2023

Time: 9 am - 3 pm

Location: Innovare Advancement Center, 592 Hangar Road, Rome NY

Cost: FREE!

Age Group: Grades 5 - 7

Max Class Size: 12 students

Cyber Camp

Students will get to learn the basic concepts of cyber security. Learn about the Linux operating system, networking, computer administration, malware, and basic scripting, with a security focus. The camp encourages critical thinking, applied learning, engineering methods, and reasoning. Cyber Camp is great for those students who want to get a taste of computer/IT technicians and feel what it is like to manage a computer system.

Dates: Monday, June 26 - Friday, June 30, 2023

Time: 9 am - 3 pm Mon-Thurs, 9 am – 12 pm Fri

Location: Innovare Advancement Center, 592 Hangar Road, Rome NY

Cost: FREE!

Age Group: Grades 9 – 12

Max Class Size: 16 students

Fly with Us: Principles of Flight I- In-Person Camp

ONE DAY CAMP! Learn how airplanes fly using Newton's Laws of Motion, and Bernoulli's equation, and know the Four Forces of Flight. Students will get to see how they are applied by flying balsa aircraft and, after lunch, looking at actual aircraft.

Date: Monday, July 17, 2023

Time: 9 am – 2 pm

Location: Innovare Advancement Center, 592 Hangar Road, Rome NY

Cost: FREE!

Age Group: Grades 4 - 7

Max Class Size: 16 students

Fly with Us: Principles of Flight II- In-Person Camp

ONE DAY CAMP! Students will conduct aircraft flight testing in a similar manner done at flight test centers. They will assess the expected outcome, plan, and conduct a test, then collect and analyze data to determine if their hypothesis is proven correct or not. Students will conduct takeoff testing by varying airplane gross weight and seeing the effects on runway takeoff distance.

Date: Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Time: 9 am – 4 pm

Location: Innovare Advancement Center, 592 Hangar Road, Rome NY

Cost: FREE!

Age Group: Grades 8 - 12

Max Class Size: 16 students

NEW! Engineering Camp

Join this 3½-day STEM summer camp designed to engage middle school students in using their minds and hands to learn basic principles of mechanical and electrical engineering by designing, building, testing, and redesigning their own working devices. The curriculum combines guided lab investigations with fun, open-ended design challenges, emphasizing hands-on experience in solving practical engineering problems through creativity and the application of scientific ideas. No prior experience is required.

Date: Tuesday, July 25 – Friday, July 28, 2023

Time: 9 am – 4 pm Tues - Thurs | 9 am – 12 pm Friday

Location: NYSTEC, 99 Otis St. Rome, NY 13441

Cost: FREE!

Age Group: Grades 6-8

Max Class Size: 16 students

Arduino Camp

Bring gadgets of all sorts to life with computer engineering hardware and software! Students will receive an Arduino kit with a multitude of sensors and electronic components that they will assemble into a system that they will program with the Arduino IDE's C++-based language. Learn how to design, build, and program microprocessors and attachments to complete a task. At the end of the camp, students should have a good understanding of introductory computer engineering concepts. Take the learning home and continue the fun! Students get to bring kits home with them to use for personal use!

Dates: Monday, July 31 - Thursday, August 3, 2023

Time: 9 am - 3 pm

Location: Innovare Advancement Center, 592 Hangar Road, Rome NY

Cost: FREE!

Age Group: Grades 9 - 12

Max Class Size: 20 students

Drone Camp

Students will focus on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) concepts that combine classroom learning with hands-on experience. Students will assemble a quadcopter and learn the science of aerodynamics and radio-controlled vehicles while focusing on the safety of use (FAA's Know Before You Fly Initiative). At the end of the week, students will fly their drones through an obstacle course at Griffiss International Airport. The camp has been designed to excite students' interest in STEM, focusing on aviation and the high-growth field of unmanned aerial systems, and will introduce students to the local employment opportunities in UAS and aviation fields. Students will gain a competitive advantage in entering aviation fields by giving them a solid foundation in science, mathematics, and communication skills, and introducing them to cutting-edge aircraft technologies.

Dates: Monday, July 31 - Friday, August 4, 2023

Time: Mon-Thurs: 9 am - 4 pm | Fri: 9 am - 12 pm

Location: MVCC - Rome Campus, 1101 Floyd Ave. Rome, NY 13440 Mon- Thurs | Innovare Advancement Center, 592 Hangar Rd. Rome, NY 13441 Friday

Days 1-4: Plumley Complex Room 120 (PC 120), MVCC, Rome Campus

Day 5: 592 Hangar Rd, Rome (look for event signage)

Cost: FREE!

Age Group: Grades 9 - 12

Max Class Size: 12 students

NEW! Sphero Camp

Sphero Camp will introduce young students to the basic principles of programming. They will learn to program and drive their Sphero Bolt. There will be an Introduction to Sphero and Programming, Design Engineering Challenges, Art Exploration, and Games. Programming concepts they will learn include move, lights, if/then, and random number generators.

Dates: Tuesday, August 15 – Thursday, August 17, 2023

Time: Option 1: 9 am – 11 am

Option 2: 1 pm – 3 pm

Location: Innovare Advancement Center, 592 Hangar Rd. Rome, NY 13441

Cost: FREE!

Age Group: Grades 3 - 5

Max Class Size: 12 students per section

Quantum Innovation Camp

Come and learn about the future of information! Learn about the physics and engineering of quantum experimentation and witness cutting-edge research. Build lasers, learn about superconductivity, and watch tiny, charged atoms (ions) trapped before your very eyes. Experience quantum levitation, learn how to speak the language of a quantum computer, and visit a state-of-the-art quantum laboratory to observe quantum mechanics in action! This STEM camp is a perfect fit for students who are interested in science, engineering, or computers, and will bring awesome technology and cool concepts to the next generation of young scientists!

Dates: Monday, August 21 - Friday, August 25, 2023

Time: 9 am – 3 pm Mon-Thurs | 9 am – 12 pm Fri

Location: Innovare Advancement Center, 592 Hangar Rd. Rome, NY 13441

Cost: FREE!

Age Group: Grades 9 - 12

Max Class Size: 20 students

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About the Air Force Research Lab Information Directorate:

The Information Directorate (RI) is the Air Force's and the nation's premier research organization for Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence (C4I) and Cyber technologies. The directorate explores, prototypes, and demonstrates high-impact, affordable and game-changing technologies. These technologies transform data into information and subsequently knowledge for decision-makers to command-and-control forces. This knowledge gives our air, space and cyberspace forces the competitive advantage needed to protect and defend the nation. <https://www.afri.af.mil/RI/>

About Griffiss Institute:

The Griffiss Institute cultivates talent and technology that tackles the world's biggest challenges. It does so alongside the United States Department of Defense's Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate (AFRL/RI) and an international network of academic, government, and industry partners. Founded in 2002 in the Mohawk Valley region of Upstate New York, Griffiss Institute has origins as an incubator of ideas. With technology transfer at its core, it forges connections and pathways that enable real-life solutions to make their way from the lab bench to commercial uses. Griffiss Institute continues to elevate and develop the next generation of STEM students, professionals, and technologies that enhance our national security. <https://www.griffissinstitute.org/>

About the Innovare Advancement Center:

The Innovare Advancement Center is a world-class research and collaboration destination with resources rivaling top-tier laboratories. The Center is the focal point of a growing Innovare family that enables discoveries in artificial intelligence, machine learning, cybersecurity, quantum, and unmanned aerial systems – interconnected physically and to a vast network of knowledge and expertise. Home to 40,000 square feet of high-tech and high-speed communications-enabled working spaces, the Innovare Advancement Center also boasts an auditorium with a capacity for over 150 people and an access point to the NY UAS Test Site – a 50-mile drone corridor for advanced unmanned aircraft operations. Learn more at innovare.org.