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Griffiss Institute Raises Over \$10,000 at Inaugural Strokes of Genius Charity Golf Tournament

Proceeds to Fuel STEM Education, Startup Initiatives, and Regional Impact Across the Mohawk Valley

Rome, NY, May 27, 2025 — The Griffiss Institute (GI) marks a successful launch of its inaugural Strokes of Genius Charity Golf Tournament, held at The Cedar Lake Club in Clayville, May 19. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors, players, and supporters, the event raised over \$10,000 to enhance programming, early-stage tech startup initiatives, and impact storytelling across the Mohawk Valley.

Despite brisk temperatures, teams brought the heat to the course, creating a spirited and memorable event. Players from across various sectors, including the defense industrial base, higher education, and local government, came together with community members for a day that embodied GI's mission to develop the next generation of STEM talent and defense technologies that will strengthen U.S. national security and create economic opportunity for our region, state, and nation.

Last year alone, Griffiss Institute doubled the number of local STEM camp graduates who experienced hands-on learning over the summer; and that number is expected to double again in 2025.

“This tournament was more than golf, it was a reflection of the purpose behind everything we do at Griffiss Institute,” said Heather Hage, President and CEO of Griffiss Institute. “Seeing the community come together in support of STEM and innovation was fun and moving, and I’m deeply grateful to all the sponsors and community partners who showed up for the GI by donating time, talent, and treasure to invest in the next generation.”

Proceeds from this inaugural event will directly support local programming that creates hands-on experiential learning opportunities and pathways that introduce the next generation to high-tech careers.

Thanks to its overwhelmingly positive reception, GI plans to make Strokes of Genius an annual tradition, continuing to drive connection, creativity, and community investment for years to come.

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As the premier STEM Talent and Technology Accelerator for the United States Department of Defense, Griffiss Institute (GI) is also comprised of an elite international network of academic, government, and industry partners. Together with our team of expert professionals we bridge the gap, bringing these three unique sectors together into one collaborative space known as the Innovare Advancement Center (IAC) in Rome, NY. Located in the picturesque Mohawk Valley Region of New York State, GI has served the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate (AFRL/RI) and the United States since 2002. GI empowers diverse teams with talent and technology development programs that lead the nation in technical and economic impact.

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