

One Nation, Secure in Science: 2026 Sponsorship & Philanthropy Opportunities



Building a stronger, skilled, and more secure America through STEM, innovation, and community.



Presented by Griffiss Institute, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit.

About Griffiss Institute

We Elevate Talent | We Empower Innovation | We Enable Experience



Our Mission

Griffiss Institute empowers the next generation of STEM talent, disruptive technologies, and mission-driven startups to strengthen U.S. national security and expand economic opportunity for our region, state, and nation.

Our Pillars

STEM Talent Development | Technological Innovation
| Ventures Growth | Philanthropy



Our 5-Year Impact Snapshot

- 750+ local students inspired in STEM camps
- 26 startups supported through the HUSTLE Defense Accelerator
- \$150,000 raised through community giving initiatives
- 598 jobs supported in the Mohawk Valley



“Throughout this program, the level of guidance, support, and engagement has been absolutely top tier. It’s been a brilliantly run program with exceptional people leading and supporting every step of the way.”

-David Youngs
Entrepreneur

Strokes of Genius Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, June 1, 2026 | Rome Country Club | Rome, NY

A day on the course that fuels the future of American innovation.

The Strokes of Genius Charity Golf Tournament brings together community leaders, innovators, and supporters for a day of connection, competition, and purpose. Funds raised from the tournament directly support Griffiss Institute's mission to attract and develop the next generation of STEM talent and disruptive technologies.

Event Features:

- 18-hole, four-person scramble with 9:00 AM shotgun start
- “Anything but a Putter” contest and networking breakfast
- Lunch at the 19th hole
- Awards ceremony with refreshments and sponsor recognition
- Mulligans, Mischievous Mulligans, basket raffles, and on-course challenges



In 2025, Griffiss Institute raised over \$10,000 at the inaugural Strokes of Genius Charity Golf Tournament. Proceeds fuel STEM education, startup initiatives, and regional impact across the Mohawk Valley. See page 8 for sponsorship tiers.

Mohawk Valley Inventors Recognition Ceremony

Date & Location TBA | Mohawk Valley

Establishing a Lasting Regional Tradition of Innovation

In 2025, 134 inventors across the Mohawk Valley were awarded U.S. patents. The Mohawk Valley Inventors Recognition Ceremony will formally honor these individuals and celebrate the ingenuity driving our region forward. Inventor recognition is unconditional. There is no cost or obligation for honorees.

Event Features:

- Recognition of all 2025 Mohawk Valley patent recipients
- Presentation of the Inventor of the Year Award
- Networking reception with hors d'oeuvres and refreshments
- Silent auction to benefit GI's mission and philanthropic initiatives

Why Participate:

The Mohawk Valley Inventors Recognition Ceremony is not a commercial awards program. It is a regional acknowledgment of invention as a public good and a celebration of the people advancing science, technology, manufacturing, healthcare, and entrepreneurship in our communities.



Your support helps honor inventors, strengthen the regional innovation ecosystem, build momentum around local innovation, and inspire students startups and researchers. Support ensures this inaugural ceremony is delivered with excellence and establishes a strong foundation for this tradition to continue annually. See page 8 for sponsorship tiers.

Mohawk Valley Gives

September 2026 | Regional Giving Day

Join Griffiss Institute in fueling innovation through philanthropy.

Mohawk Valley Gives is a region-wide day of giving hosted by the Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties. Griffiss Institute participates annually to raise funds that advance our mission: connecting STEM talent, innovation, and opportunity across the Mohawk Valley.

How to Participate:

- Become a Match Donor – Double the impact of community giving by matching contributions up to a set amount.
- Corporate Giving Partner – Let your company share the spotlight and sponsor a corporate challenge or employee-match campaign.
- Individual Donor – Contribute directly to the Griffiss Institute Foundation’s endowment or annual fund.

Why It Matters:

Every gift made through Mohawk Valley Gives impacts the region, sustaining programs that:

- Equip students with hands-on STEM experiences
- Connect innovators with mentors and investors
- Support research and technology development that advances national security



Since joining Mohawk Valley Gives in 2024, our campaign has raised more than \$72,000, thanks to the generosity of match donors, local businesses, and community supporters.

Griffiss Institute Social Club Series

Year-Round | Innovare Advancement Center | Rome, NY

A curated convening series designed to strengthen the region's innovation ecosystem.

Social Club is Griffiss Institute's signature networking and thought leadership series, designed to bring together innovators, entrepreneurs, researchers, technologists, students, corporate partners, and community leaders in a relaxed, relationship-building environment.

It is not a "social club" in the traditional sense. It is a curated community-building experience that advances connection, conversation, and collaboration across the Mohawk Valley's growing science and technology landscape.

Why It Matters:

Social Club gives Griffiss Institute a platform that:

- Builds social capital across the region
- Encourages collaborations that may lead to new research, workforce pathways, or startups
- Gives sponsors consistent visibility within the innovation community
- Provides GI the ability to host meaningful, high-impact engagements at a low cost, with social club experiences tailored to fit your needs.



Social Club is Griffiss Institute's recurring, curated networking and thought-leadership series that brings together the region's innovators, entrepreneurs, researchers, and community leaders to connect, learn, and collaborate.

How to Partner

Invest in People | Drive Innovation | Shape the Future

Your support fuels opportunities—helping curious minds, bold thinkers, and future leaders find their path, build skills, and make a difference.

Ways to Support:

- Event Sponsorships - Choose one or multiple events that align with your brand.
- In-Kind or Auction Donations - Provide products, services, or experiences for silent auctions or prize packages.
- Annual Giving - Make a direct philanthropic gift to the Griffiss Institute Foundation.
- Endowment Contributions - Support the Griffiss Institute's vision for sustainable impact.
- Volunteer Opportunities - To be a mentor, speaker, provide your expertise in advising and hands-on experience.

Become an Impact Partner:

Sponsors supporting more than one initiative (Strokes of Genius, Inventors Ceremony, MV Gives, or Social Club) are recognized as **Griffiss Institute Impact Partners** in press releases, social media, and on donor walls.














“It’s about the spark that comes when a student gets close to an aircraft for the first time. Or when a young person realizes their interest in science and technology can lead to a real and amazing career right here in our own backyard. At Griffiss Institute, we are focused on making those possibilities real.”

-Heather Hage
President & CEO

Event Sponsorship Tiers

Strokes of Genius Charity Golf Tournament










Monday, June 1, 2026 | Rome Country Club | Rome, NY

Level	Investment	Highlights
 Presenting Sponsor	\$5,000	Event titled "Strokes of Genius, presented by [Company Name]", premier logo placement, executive speaking opportunity, foursome team, media and impact recognition
 Gold Sponsor	\$2,500	Logo on all signage and materials; two player entries
 Golf Cart Sponsor	\$2,000	Exclusive logo placement on all golf carts during the tournament, verbal recognition
 Contest or Lunch Sponsor	\$750	On-course branding and verbal recognition
 Beverage Cart Sponsor	\$500	Exclusive branding on beverage cart, opportunity for staff to distribute branded items (napkins, koozies, giveaways)
 Player Gift Bag Sponsor	\$500	Logo on each bag, opportunity to include branded item
 Driving Range Sponsor	\$300	Logo on signage at range and warm-up area
 Putting Green Sponsor	\$300	Logo at "Anything but a Putter" contest area
 Hole Sponsor	\$100	Branded sign at tee and option to host table
 Community Supporter	\$50	Name listed on event website and shared in post-event impact recognition, supports GI STEM and innovation program
 In-Kind Sponsor	Varies	Recognition for donated goods, raffle items, or prizes

Event Sponsorship Tiers

Inventors Recognition Ceremony




Date & Location TBA | Mohawk Valley

Level	Investment	Highlights
 Lead Innovation Steward Limited to two organizations	\$10,000	Leadership acknowledgement during ceremony, premier reserved table (10 guests), logo in printed and digital program, recognition on event webpage, inclusion in post-event summary
 Innovation Steward	\$5,000	Reserved table (8 guests), logo in printed and digital program, recognition during ceremony
 Research & Discovery Sponsor	\$2,500	Reserved table (8 guests), logo in printed and digital program, recognition on webpage
 Reception Sponsor	\$1,500	Recognition at food and beverage stations; 2 reserved seats
 Community Innovation Supporter	\$1,000	Two reserved seats, name listed in program and on webpage
 Bronze Community Sponsor	\$500	Name listed in program
 In-Kind Sponsor	Varies	Recognition for donated items, services, or auction contributions
 Individual Supporter Ticket	\$250	Reserved seating and reception access
 General Admission	\$150	Ceremony admission

Event Sponsorship Tiers



Griffiss Institute Social Club

Year-Round | Innovare Advancement Center | Rome, NY

Level	Investment	Highlights
 Presenting Sponsor	\$7,500	Premier naming rights; promotional logo placement; verbal recognition at all events; opportunity to nominate a speaker; four VIP invitations per event
 Event Sponsor	\$2,500	Recognition as sponsor for selected event; promotional logo placement; opportunity to introduce speaker; reserved seating for sponsor guests
 Networking Lounge Sponsor	\$1,000	Promotional logo placement; verbal recognition; opportunity to provide tabletop collateral




Coffee + Concepts

18 Events Year-Round | Innovare Advancement Center | Rome, NY

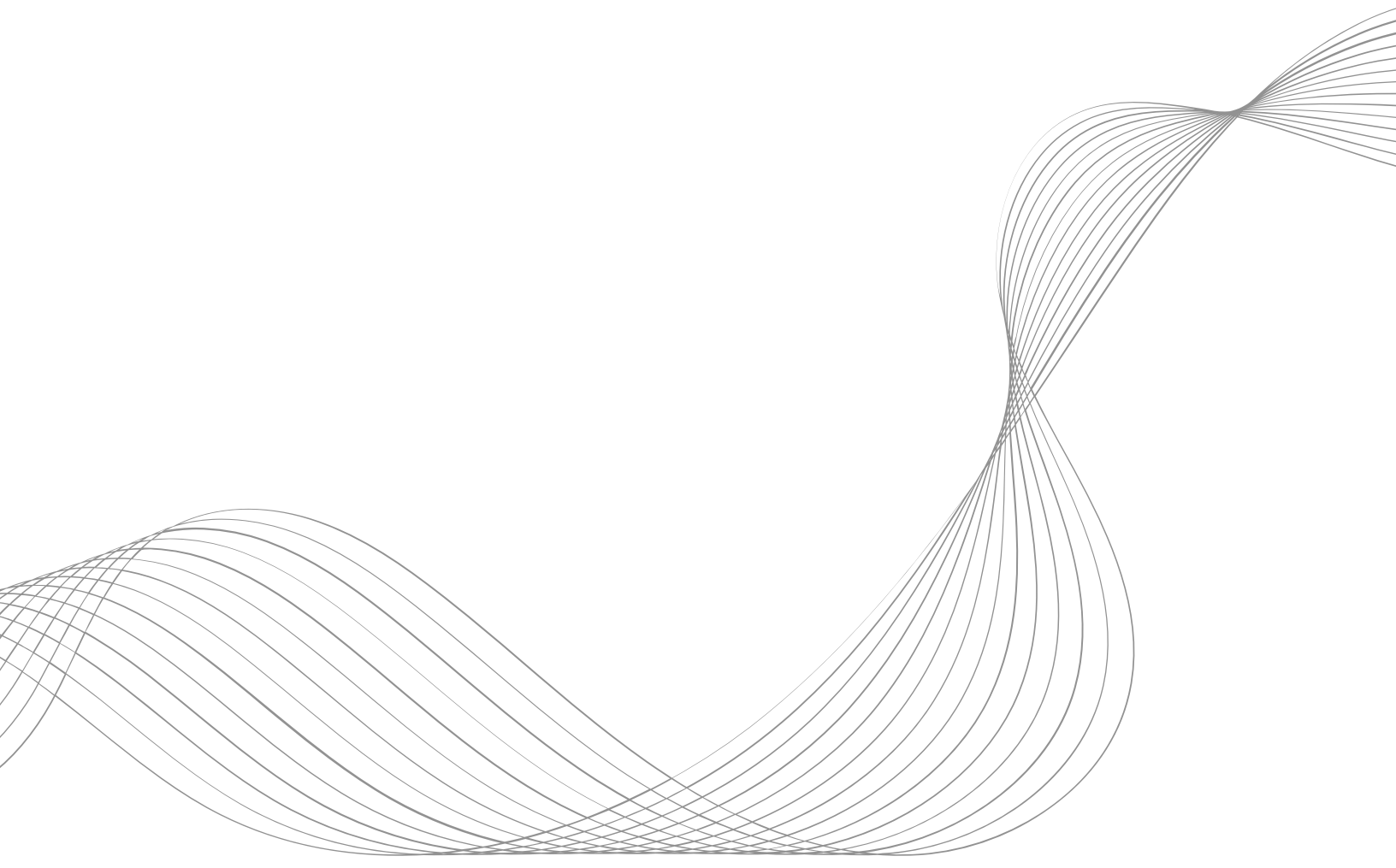
Level	Investment	Highlights
 Presenting Sponsor	\$10,000	Premier naming rights; promotional logo placement; verbal recognition at all events; two event welcome messages
 Supporting Sponsor	\$1,000	Support both Coffee + Concepts sessions for a given month; promotional logo placement; verbal recognition at events

Additional Sponsorship Opportunities


Year-Round | Innovare Advancement Center | Rome, NY

Level	Investment	Highlights
 Innovation Room Naming Sponsor	\$15,000-\$50,000	3-4 Year Terms Naming plaque and digital room listing; recognition on website and donor communications; one annual use of room
 Speaker/Panelist Sponsor	\$1,500	Recognition as the exclusive sponsor of a selected speaker or panel; promotional logo placement; optional opening remarks
 Innovation Engagement Partner Bundle	\$15,000-\$20,000	One Social Club event sponsorship; two Networking Lounge sponsorships; one-month sponsor of Coffee + Concepts; recognition in Griffiss Institutes' annual report

Together, We're Fueling American Innovation.



To Learn More About
Sponsorships and
Volunteering Contact:

 Melissa Tallman, Chief Brand Officer

 mtallman@griffissinstitute.org

 Griffiss Institute

592 Hangar Road, Rome, NY 13441

Scan to donate to the
Griffiss Institute Fund:



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