

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Philanthropies Express Support for Affiliation Talks Between Roberson Museum and the Discovery Center

Binghamton, New York (August 31, 2020) -- Roberson Museum and Science Center and the Discovery Center of the Southern Tier began the exciting exploratory talks regarding a potential affiliation in May. These meetings are being facilitated by the New York Council of Nonprofits (NYCON) through their 2020 Southern Tier Capacity Building Program which aims to measurably improve nonprofits' governance operations and business management.

Four local philanthropic organizations, the Conrad and Virginia Klee Foundation, the Community Foundation for South Central New York, the Stewart W. and Willma C. Hoyt Foundation, and the United Way of Broome County provide the funding for the Southern Tier Capacity Building Program. These philanthropic organizations have expressed strong support for the ongoing affiliation discussions.

Amanda McIntyre, Executive Director of the Conrad and Virginia Klee Foundation said, "Klee is always interested in supporting collaboration between community organizations to identify efficiencies and to develop strategic partnerships. Our investment in NYCON's Southern Tier Capacity Building Program is to provide resources for exactly the type of exploratory work that Roberson and the Discovery Center have taken on and we commend their efforts."

Like so many nonprofits in our region, both Roberson and the Discovery Center have experienced financial impacts over the years from a changing Upstate NY economy and more recently significant losses as a direct result of COVID-19. Support from these key philanthropic organizations highlight their commitment to strengthening the Southern Tier's nonprofit sector through innovative approaches that enhance the region's quality of life.

###