# ROOTEDINROME

The City of Rome is a unique and wonderful place to live, work, play, and raise a family. Progressive schools, safe streets, a great labor force, countless outdoor recreational activities, amazing arts, entertainment events, and an abundance of historical treasures can all be found here. The quality of life in Rome is unmatched, and offers magnificent opportunities for continued growth and prosperity.







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#### ROOTED IN EDUCATION.

The Rome City School District has a proud history and a bright future. Rome Free Academy was one of the first public schools in upstate New York. In 2002, a new Rome Free Academy was opened on the Griffiss Business and Technology Park. This attractive, spacious and modern facility currently enrolls about 1,600 high school students.

The District has six elementary schools serving grades K-4, one upper elementary school for grades 5-6, one middle school for grades 7-8, and a high school for grades 9-12. There are two Early Childhood Programs, prekindergarten and Forever Growing, which recently moved into a newly

renovated space next door to the District Offices. Currently, Rome is implementing a \$30 million capital project to renovate and upgrade five elementary schools to ensure the spaces are appropriate and adequate for 21st century learners.

Rome Free Academy houses an impressive S.T.E.M. (Science Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program. This program provides the framework

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that connects SHAPING MINDS THROUGH S.T.E.M.

educational disciplines, businesses and communities to create adaptable citizen-involved, globally-responsible, The Rome school district produces graduates with both compassionate hearts and pawerful minds. reality-based programs for developing

#### **ROOTED IN RECREATION.**

If you enjoy outdoor activities in breathtaking natural settings - Rome is for you! With over 60 miles of recreational trails, Rome provides many opportunities for outdoor leisure during any season - right in your back yard. Residents can hike through the beautiful, scenic landscape of the Rome Sand Plains or bike the 10-mile. New York State designated route. Adventure seekers can take in the waterfront while walking along the Mohawk River and Erie Canalway Trails or snowmobile along the old railroad bed.

Rome is also home to 25 parks, 12 playgrounds, five pools and one incredible arena - the J.F.Kenedy Civic Arena. The arena is one of Rome's most popular venues and hosts numerous figure skating and ice hockey events, as well as learn to skate programs for youths. The arena is also home to the Rome Free Academy Varsity Hockey Team, which plays its home games at the 1,200-seat facility.

#### **ROOTED IN BUSINESS.**

Rome has several organizations dedicated to economic and business development. Rome prioritizes community and economic development - multiple municipal and non- profit agencies provide advice and financial assistance for local and small businesses. Residents and those thinking of moving to Rome can apply for a grant from the Rome Community Foundation or consult with the Rome Industrial Development Corporation to start your own business. Some of the small businesses that have found success in Rome include the Franklin Hotel, Iron Kettle, Spressos Coffee House and Olney's Flowers.

## **ROOTED IN HISTORY & ARTS.**

Rome has an incredible mix of arts. entertainment and culture in its historic setting.

Friends and families can dine together and shop along the North James Street Corridor or in the Little Italy District. Those who love outdoor adventures can boat or kayak on the Erie Canal and enjoy a variety of arts and cultural attractions, such as the Capitol Theatre or Veteran's Memorial Park.

Rome has 10 attractions on the National Register of Historic Places and countless local landmarks. Fort Stanwix National Monument represents a major turning point in America's defeat of the British in the 1777 battle at Saratoga during the Revolutionary War. Those who want to take a deep dive into the battle can have a guided tour at the Marinus Willett Center to experience a day in the life of a Revolutionary War hero. Other attractions that contribute to Rome's rich history are Arsenal House, Gansevoort-Bellamy Historic District, Jervis Public Library, Mills House and Zion Church.

### **ROOTED IN SAFETY &** AFFORDABILITY.

Rome is the ideal setting to lay down roots and grow a family. Rome is ranked among the top 10 most affordable mid-sized metropolitan statistical areas in the country. Both the cost of living and the cost of housing in Rome are significantly lower than the national and state averages. Rome is also considered to be among the top 15 safest and most secure mid-sized cities in the country with crime rates considerably lower than the national average.



THE CAPITOL THEATRE REMAINS THE ONLY BUILDING IN ROME CONSTRUCTED FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF EXHIBITING MOTION PICTURES. ALTHOUGH THE THEATRE RECEIVED AN ART DECO FACE-LIFT IN 1939. THE AUDITORIUM IS **CONFIGURED EXACTLY AS IT WAS IN 1928,** AND MUCH OF THE ORIGINAL DECOR **REMAINS. IN ADDITION TO MOTION** PICTURES, THE THEATRE HOSTS **MUSICAL PERFORMANCE AND OTHER** PERFORMING ARTS PRODUCTIONS.

- The Rhapsody show choir has attended national competitions
- Rome is 1 of only 3 districts to receive a grant to create a STEM program
- Fact about the robotics program?
- Rome's world class Air Force research lab integrates with the schools
- Rome Free Academy (RFA) offers Advanced Placement Courses in: Biology, Calculus, Computer Science, English Literature, Physics 1, Physics 2, United States History, and World History.