



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***THE STARS ALIGN FOR THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF COLLEGE,
CAREER & BEYOND | MIDNIGHT GOLF PROGRAM***

*The Rocket Classic Named Founder's Cup Premier Sponsor
Detroit Native David Alan Grier to Return Home as Emcee of Milestone Event*

DETROIT, MI — March 31, 2026 — The stars align in the Motor City as plans for the **25th Anniversary of [College Career Beyond | Midnight Golf Program](#) (CCB|MGP)** accelerate toward the much-anticipated milestone celebration at **The Department at Hudson's** on **April 30th**. The **[Rocket Classic](#)**, Detroit's only PGA TOUR event, will join as the event's Founder's Cup Premier Sponsor, leading a roster of impressive supporters, while Detroit native, NBC star and Tony Award-winner **David Alan Grier** returns home to serve as Master of Ceremonies

"We aren't just celebrating a milestone; together we're fueling the future in service to our community," said **Renée Fluker**, Founder and CEO. "To have the commitment and support of Rocket Classic and David Alan Grier demonstrates the first-class nature of our mission and this event."

For 25 years, CCB | MGP has created a community-driven mission for thousands of Detroit-area high school seniors to ensure they don't just graduate, but enroll, persist, and graduate from college. With a **98% college acceptance rate**, CCB | MGP is directly addressing a gap that has persisted for years—**statewide**, just **53% of 2024 high school graduates** enrolled in college within six months of finishing high school. That gap is exactly why CCB | MGP exists and why the mission-driven work must continue.

The Rocket Classic's support for CCB | MGP's 25th Anniversary Gala builds on the tournament's longstanding commitment to the Detroit community. Since 2019, the Rocket Classic has invested more than \$10 million into local charitable organizations, including \$6 million in

contributions to the event's landmark "Changing the Course" initiative to connect Detroit residents to high-speed internet, digital devices and training. The tournament also proudly supports youth development organizations, such as CCB | MGP, that expand the game of golf and provide participants with the skills and resources to succeed in life.

"For seven years, Rocket Classic has made an indelible impact on the community through its efforts to bridge the digital divide, inspire the next generation and shine a spotlight on the city of Detroit," said Rocket Classic Tournament Director Mark Hollis. "As a longtime supporter and friend of College, Career and Beyond, we've seen firsthand how this remarkable program benefits participants today and for a lifetime, and we are proud to join them for this historic celebration."

The anniversary gala aims to raise **\$1.2 million** to fully fund the program costs for the incoming **Class of 2027**. Set in the exquisitely designed **The Department at Hudson's**, the evening will feature an interactive experience including celebrity gameplay, a strolling golf apparel fashion show, and a hole-in-one challenge.

Since 2001, CCB | MGP has expanded from a local golf clinic into a comprehensive life-skills and mentoring powerhouse. The program provides students with life skills, professional mentoring, golf training with PGA pros, financial literacy, scholarships, family-style meals, and the signature "Road Trip for Success" college tour—all designed to remove social and financial barriers to higher education.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities for the 25th Anniversary Gala are available at collegecareerbeyond.org.

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About COLLEGE CAREER & BEYOND | MIDNIGHT GOLF PROGRAM

Founded in 2001 by Renèe Fluker, College Career & Beyond | Midnight Golf Program (CCB | MGP) is a Detroit-based nonprofit providing academically motivated high school and college-enrolled students with the mentorship, financial literacy, and professional development necessary to thrive through post-secondary graduation.

Ms. Fluker is a distinguished leader in the nonprofit sector and a recipient of the 2024 AARP Purpose Prize, the 2024 Wilmers Purpose Prize, and the Wayne State University Distinguished Alumni Award.

About the Rocket Classic:

The Rocket Classic made history in 2019 as the first PGA TOUR event ever held in the city of Detroit and has continued to make a positive and lasting impact on the city and its residents through its multi-year “Changing the Course” campaign, established in 2020 to end the digital divide in Detroit and ensure digital accessibility for all city residents. The Rocket Classic was the most awarded event during the 2018-19 PGA TOUR season, being recognized for “Best Special Event” (then known as the AREA 313 Celebrity Challenge) and “Best Tournament Sales” as well as being honored with the first “Fair Way Award” for its diversity and inclusion initiatives. The Fair Way Award was bestowed upon the Rocket Classic again in 2023 and 2024, and in 2024 the tournament also received the Best Volunteer Program award. More information is available at RocketClassic.com and on Facebook, X and Instagram (@RocketClassic).