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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Whitaker Center's SURGERY LIVE! Program Debuts on the BIG Screen this Thursday
Popular educational program moves from Stage Two to Select Medical Digital Cinema

Harrisburg, PA- Surgery Live!, one of Whitaker Center's hallmark educational programs, recently celebrated its 10th year anniversary and now has a new venue inside the downtown arts and science hub: Select Medical Digital Cinema and will debut this Thursday at 9:00 AM. The program previously took place in Stage Two, located on the lower level of Whitaker Center. Stage Two is now the home of the HU Storm (Harrisburg University's eSports team).

10 plus years ago, Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts and Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center collaborated to create an innovative real-time surgery broadcast designed to stimulate the interest of high school students in careers in the health care field. With the support of Highmark BlueShield, Surgery Live! at Whitaker Center connects students to the operating rooms of Hershey Medical Center through interactive high-definition videoconferencing technology. The surgeons in operating room are connected to the students at Whitaker Center and can talk, ask questions and interact in real-time. Surgery Live! is one of only four programs of its kind in the country.

Whitaker Center's Director of Education, Jessica Rice, is particularly excited about this upgrade. "We've doubled our capacity and enhanced the experience with stadium seating and a larger viewing screen. Our high school students and teachers who attend this program have been asking for these upgrades and we're pleased to deliver!" Rice said.

The programs' presenting sponsor, and major underwriter, Highmark has been an integral partner in the success of Surgery Live! from the start. Highmark continues to express their excitement for this program as a whole and the partnership with Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Whitaker Center.

This Thursday's program is the first in the "season" with high school students booked to experience the program the whole way through April. Surgery Live! is a private program reserved for high school and post-secondary education groups who are in the medical track. This program is not open to the public.

For more information on Surgery Live! visit <https://www.whitakercenter.org/surgery-live>

Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts is a non-profit center for the arts, education, entertainment and cultural enrichment located in the heart of Harrisburg's vibrant downtown. Whitaker Center is home to Sunoco Performance Theater, Harsco Science Center and Select Medical Digital Cinema featuring a four story premium large format theater with a recently upgraded 4K digital projection system. Visit whitakercenter.org for a full list of events, shows, hours of operation, and ticket rates.

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