



**ACE Mentor Program of Greater New York High School Students
present before the Recreation, Culture & Tourism Committee of the
Miami County Commission.**

MIAMI, September 13, 2010. Students from Team 20 of the ACE Mentor Program of Greater New York, led by RCDolner Construction LLC, gave a special project presentation to the Miami-Dade County Commission's Recreation, Culture and Tourism Committee on Monday, September 13, 2010. Mayor Carlos Alvarez of Miami-Dade County introduced the ACE Mentor Program and welcomed the students with encouraging remarks.

The students' project is the culmination of eight months of hard work consisting of planning and designing a performing arts facility the students refer to as Lincoln Center Performing Arts Academy.

The students developed this project as part of the requirements for the ACE Mentor Program in which they design and present a mock project as would a real project design team. In addition to gaining the experience of participating on a design team, the students learn new skills and receive industry perspectives from their mentors--professionals from leading design and construction firms.

The students who presented in Miami include three New York City high school students and two high school graduates now in their first year of college:

- Kyra Cuevas - The Cooper Union
- Antonia Giles - The Berkeley Carroll School
- Noeliz Lee - The City University of New York, Grove School of Engineering
- Kevin Rojas - High School For Construction Trades, Engineering and Architecture
- Elvin J. Valette - High School For Construction Trades, Engineering and Architecture

Antonia Giles, a junior who intends to major in Architectural Engineering in college said, "This is a very exciting opportunity that would not be possible without the ACE program and our mentors. Not only do we get to showcase our ideas but we get to present our project to city officials and take an architectural tour of Miami."

Mentors James Barry, Vice President, and Wendy Koshner, Director of Marketing, from RCDolner Construction LLC, along with Nancy Rankin from John G. Waite Associates, Architects PLLC, accompanied the five students to Miami on Sunday, September 12. The trip included the Miami Design Preservation League's guided tour of the Art Deco District, a visit to the project site location, and a presentation and tour of one of Miami's leading architectural firms Arquitectonica.

The ACE program is a unique partnership among New York City's leading schools and universities, architects, interior designers, engineers, construction management companies, professional organizations and related corporations. Acting as advisors and mentors, participating companies work with a group of 20 to 30 students for the school year, introducing them to the rewards of careers in the design and construction industries, challenging them to solve complex problems as part of a team, and encouraging them to attend college.

In 2009, approximately 500 students enrolled in the ACE program in the Greater New York City area. ACE has expanded across the country and now exists in more than 200 cities. ACE New York has awarded \$1,197,000 in scholarships to 622 deserving graduates of the program since 1996.

For more information about ACE, please contact the ACE national office at (203) 323-0020 or visit our website at www.acementor.org. Digital images are available on request.