



FOR: THE ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

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**UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS COMMITS \$200,000 TO
CLEVELAND ACE MENTOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**
Hospital to Donate \$200,000 over the Next Four Years

CLEVELAND, OH (November 30, 2010) – University Hospitals in Cleveland, Ohio, has committed to a donation of \$200,000 to the ACE Mentor Program of Cleveland over the next four years. The ACE Mentor Program of Cleveland is an affiliate of the ACE Mentor Program of America, a national non-profit organization which provides outreach and mentoring for students in 226 markets across the country.

Gilbane Building Company and UH are co sponsors of the ACE program and brought it to Cleveland in 2008. “We are thrilled to support the ACE program and strongly believe that the mentoring relationships developed through this program are invaluable to Cleveland students as they continue their education and training in the fields of architecture, construction and engineering,” says Margaret Hewitt, Vice President of Construction, UH.

According to Tom Laird, ACE Mentor Program of Cleveland Board Chair, “For the first time in May 2010, the ACE Mentor Program of Cleveland awarded \$10,000 in scholarships to seven senior ACE students. The Hospital’s \$50,000 annual contribution will tremendously enhance our ability to provide additional college scholarships for ACE high school seniors who are pursuing degree programs in architecture, engineering and construction. This commitment and generosity by University Hospitals will undoubtedly change the lives of many of our ACE students. I know every one of our graduates and their families will forever be grateful for the opportunities these scholarships will provide.”

The ACE Mentor Program was created to address the growing need for architecture, construction and engineering professionals nationwide - a shortage that could become a crisis if current trends continue. The mentors are professionals from leading design, engineering and construction firms who volunteer their time and energy to engage, inform, and challenge youth.

ACE Mentor Program of Cleveland

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Career Directions for Students in Architecture, Construction and Engineering

Since its inception, the 15-week ACE Mentor Program of Cleveland has offered mentor programs for 60 high school juniors and seniors from the John Hay School of Architecture & Design and James Ford Rhodes High School. The chapter has grown to include 29 local member firms whose employees volunteer their time to work with students on a variety of mentoring activities: tours of construction sites, visiting various mentor company offices, and hands-on projects such as preparing mock contractor bids and developing 3D models of building concepts.

“The ACE program has been a valuable extension to learning, keeping high school students engaged after school ends by allowing them to participate in positive experiences with adult mentors exploring a variety of construction related career fields,” stated Eric Gordon, Chief Academic Officer, Cleveland Metropolitan School District. “This generous gift from University Hospitals makes it not only possible to continue this outstanding program, but to expand it to other CMSD high schools as well.”

A sample of local firms providing volunteers to serve as mentors include: Array Healthcare Facility Solutions, Architect; Barber & Hoffman, Structural Engineer; Burt Hill, Architect; Chas E. Phipps Company, Material Supplier; Cleveland Educational Design Alliance, Architect; Cleveland State University, Owner; CT Consultants, Civil Engineer; Gilbane Building Company, Construction Manager; Herschman Architects, Architect; Michael Benza & Associates, Civil Engineer; Panzica Construction Company, General Contractor; PSI, Geotechnical Engineer; R.L. Hill Management, General Contractor; Regency Construction Services, Inc., Construction Manager; The Coniglio Company, General Contractor; Thorson Baker & Associates, Mechanical/Electrical/Civil/Structural Engineer; VIP Restoration, Masonry Contractor; and University Hospitals, Owner.

About ACE Mentor Program

The ACE Mentor Program is the fastest-growing high school mentoring program focusing on careers in the design/build industry. It was founded by the principals of leading design and construction firms, to introduce high school students to career opportunities in the industry. The mission of the organization is to engage, excite and enlighten high school students to pursue careers in the integrated design industry through mentoring, and to support their continued advancement in the industry through scholarships and grants. ACE makes a special attempt to reach students that otherwise may not become aware of the challenges and rewards of a career in the design and construction industry. For additional information, see www.acementor.org.

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