

## Executive Director's Note

Trisha Grant, LEED AP

Dear Supporters of ACE,

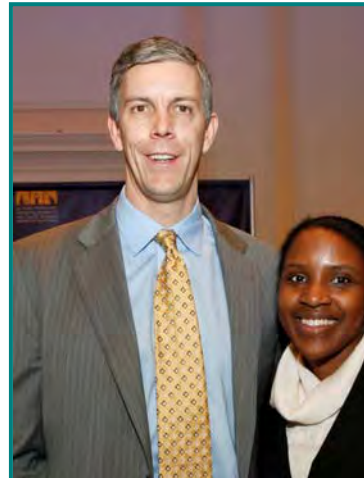
We would like to thank **The National Harbor Community Outreach Grant Fund of the Community Foundation for Prince George's County**; and the **Clark Construction Group, LLC** for their generous holiday giving grant.

In December, we were featured by Education Week in an article by Jamaal Abdul-Alim.

For January's **National Mentoring Month** Open House mentor sessions, we were thrilled to have a representative from **Senator Patty Murray's** office (D-Washington State) as well as from various foundations, industry firms, and other governmental organizations.

Our **Sustainable Design Certificate Program** will be rolling out soon, thanks in part to the efforts of our volunteers: Stephen Hattwick (Turner Co.), Lisa Crawford (Capitol Property Development) and Vinod Aranha (USGBC).

Enjoy our Winter Newsletter!



Secretary of Education **Arne Duncan** pictured here with Executive Director **Trisha Grant** at the Library of Congress during January's 2011 National Mentoring Summit, Washington, D.C.

## WINTER 2011 CALENDAR

### February 2011

- February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Winter Board Meeting

### March 2011

- March 15. CIRT Competition Entries Due
- March 16. Mentor Appreciation Event
- March 31. MTTG Scholarship Applications Due

### April 2011

- Coolidge/ASLA Legacy Project – Build It Day
- April 21. ACE Scholarships Applications Due

### May 2011

- May 25. Scholarship Awards Breakfast and 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
- May 16, 17, 18, 19. ACE Student Presentation Nights



## SAVE THE DATE

2011 Scholarship Awards  
Breakfast &  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

May 25, 2011

## In This Issue:

Our 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary .....	2
ACE Annual Scholarship Awards Breakfast .....	3
ACE Alums .....	4
LinkedIn, eBay and our Focus.....	7

# Our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

*At the Scholarship Awards Breakfast, May 25, 2011*

This year's Scholarship Awards Breakfast celebrates **TEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY** as well as \$328,000 scholarship awards to 98 high school youth, aspiring to careers in Architecture, Engineering and Construction.

## HISTORY OF ACE DC

The affiliate was first started in school year 2000-2001, back when there were 60 students on 4 teams; and no Executive Director or staff but a group of passionate volunteers who wanted to continue the program in the DC metro area, though found it challenging to balance the demands of their professions.

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

We are proud of the prominent media attention, awards and support received over the years:

- American Architectural Foundation Award
- Economic Mobility Corporation
- Commonwealth Contractor Magazine
- DC Youth Issues, Examiner.com
- Nonprofit Business, Examiner.com
- Metro Architect
- Greater DC Cares Community Impact Award
- Education Week
- Recognition by Ward 1 Councilmember Graham, Ward 3 Councilmember Cheh, and Ward 4 Councilmember Bowser

## BOARD PRESIDENTS

Our outstanding Presidents have guided our mission and continue to successfully lead the affiliate to this day:

- **2001-2003: John Spolidis**, Vanderweil Engineers (formerly Syska Hennessy and ARUP)
- **2003-2010: Chris Reseigh**, Parsons Brinkerhoff
- **2010 – Present: Christine Merdon**, Architect of the Capitol (formerly McKissack & McKissack)



*"I had an immense feeling of accomplishment when my peers and I presented our hospital design in the ACE Mentor conference in Washington, D.C. I felt elated to be a part of something so sophisticated."*

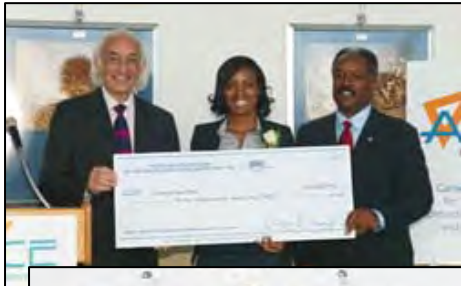
*Michelle Thompson, '10 ACE Student and Aspiring Engineer*



# ACE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS BREAKFAST

*Wednesday, May 25, 2011 @ 7:30-10:30am  
National Press Club – Washington, DC*

Support scholarships for ACE Mentees' higher education. For more information, visit [www.acementor.org/592](http://www.acementor.org/592) or contact Executive Director Trisha Grant at 202.577.3028 or reach her via email at [tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org](mailto:tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org)



## \$10K PENTHOUSE

Provides \$5,000 scholarship; Receive two breakfast tables of ten; Prominent event signage; Recognition of scholarship award; Special mention in the program; Year-long recognition on ACE website; and Year-long recognition in ACE publications

## \$5K TOP FLOOR

- Provides \$2,500 scholarship
- Receive one breakfast table for ten
- Prominent event signage
- Recognition of scholarship award
- Special mention in the program
- Year-long recognition on ACE website
- Year-long recognition in ACE publications

## \$3,500 MEZZANINE

- Provides \$1,500 scholarship
- Receive one breakfast table for ten
- Medium event signage
- Recognition of scholarship award
- Special mention in the program
- Year-long recognition on ACE website
- Year-long recognition in ACE

## \$2,000 LOBBY

- Provides \$1,000 scholarship
- Receive one breakfast table for ten
- Medium event signage
- Recognition of scholarship award
- Special mention in the program
- Year-long recognition on ACE website
- Year-long recognition in ACE publications

## \$1,500 Breakfast Table

- Breakfast table for ten, with access to full buffet

## \$160 Individual Ticket

### SPECIALTY PACKAGES

Each package purchased provides named recognition during the event; Medium event signage; and helps underwrite event costs

Coffee Station - \$500

Breakfast Buffet - \$500

# ACE ALUMS

## *Where Are They Now?*

We caught up with a few of our alums to learn about their next, exciting adventures after graduating from high school and the ACE Mentor Program:

### **Sara Fleetwood – 2010 Scholarship Winner**

She is currently a Freshman at Virginia Tech, planning on majoring in Mining Engineering and minoring Green Engineering. A regular volunteer for various campus activities, some of the clubs that she is involved in are the VPI Cave Club, rock-climbing club, photography club, and outdoors club. She has participated in multiple volunteer activities throughout the school year, but am not involved in any long term ones.

*“The ACE mentor program meant a lot to me because, without it, I may not have realized that I wanted to become an engineer. Also, the program helped give me guidance in what I wanted to do with my future, was a great thing to have on college applications, provided experience with computer programs (inventor, revit, autocad, etc.), and provided me with a scholarship that has been very nice to have this year. Thank you for everything that you guys have done for me!”*

### **Josue Fernandez – 2009 Scholarship Winner**

A sophomore at Pennsylvania State University, Josue is majoring in Architectural Engineering and minoring in Architecture. He is a member of the Student Society of Architectural Engineers (SSAE), the Student Chapter of the Partnership for Achieving Construction Excellence (S:PACE), and the Blue and White Society.

*“The ACE Mentor Program was an invaluable opportunity for me to explore the construction industry.”*

### **Nina Randorf – 2009 Scholarship Winner**

She is currently attending the University of Michigan, College of Engineering as a 1<sup>st</sup> year with sophomore standing. She took a gap year to study and volunteer abroad – of which one of her best experiences was working for the Environmental Corp American Conservation Experience in Flagstaff, AZ. She enjoys volunteering, especially on an international field. She is currently a part of the Michigan Research Community as a Peer Advisor for incoming Freshmen and tour guide for visiting high school seniors. A member of the Michigan Taekwondo Club, Nina fought as a middle weight and the team won 1<sup>st</sup> place in Mens, Womens and Overall Performance for Division III.

*“...the ACE Mentor Program was an anchor for the most difficult and transitional years in my academic career. I joined ACE as a high school sophomore for its hands-on learning opportunity...”*

### **Rachel Ogunsalu – 2009-2010 ACE Mentee**

Attending Morgan State University, she is a sophomore studying Electrical Engineering. Memberships, clubs and extracurriculars include BEYA - Black Engineers of the Year Awards 2011; NSBE - National Society of Black Engineers, Assistant Treasurer & Step Team; and a Student Teacher with SEMAA - Science, Engineering, Mathematics, and Aeronautics Academy.

*“ACE helped me put my life into perspective and encouraged me to look into the profession of engineering (more in depth) as more than what is portrayed. Now I can say I love what I do.”*



# ACE ALUMS

## *Where Are They Now?*

(cont.)

### **Danny Gramajo – 2009 Scholarship Winner**

He is attending Montgomery College and working a full time job. His second year in college, he is still majoring in Architecture. He is also volunteering at the new Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza.

*“The ACE Mentor Program always helped me to motivate myself to do well in school. I want to make my mentors and professor proud of me when I graduate from college. My mentors and teacher from the program didn't give up on helping me to get a scholarship; and to realize that an architect is what I want to be. Thanks ACE Mentor Program.”*

### **Daniel DeLorme – 2009 Scholarship Winner**

A junior at Michigan State University, he is majoring in Mechanical Engineering with a Biomedical Engineering concentration and a minor in Economics. He is a member of the Triangle Fraternity; American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) at Michigan State University; Habitat for Humanity

*“The ACE Mentor Program helped reassure me that I wanted to be an engineer. The program also got me a job at MSU doing architecture and engineering work.”*

Other **UNIVERSITIES ACE GRADUATES** attended or are currently attending include:

Alleghany College	North Carolina State University
Arizona State	Northern Virginia Community College
Carnegie Mellon	Old Dominion University
Catholic University of America	Pennsylvania State University
Cleveland State	Prince George's Community College
Colorado State	Radford University
Cornell University	South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
Florida A&M University	Texas Southern University
Frostburg State University	University of Hartford
George Mason University	University of Maryland
George Washington University	University of Michigan
Grinnell College (Iowa)	University of Pittsburgh
Hampton University	University of the District of Columbia
Howard University	University of Virginia
James Madison	University of Wyoming
Johnson C. Smith University	Virginia Commonwealth
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Virginia Tech
Michigan State	West Virginia University
Montgomery College	Xavier University

# ACE ALUMS

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## *Where Are They Now?*

(cont.)

### **Ilyssa Kaserman** – 2009-2010 ACE Mentee

She is a freshman at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, IL. Enrolled in the 5-year architecture program, she is also exploring the Chicago Leadership Academy and vigorously working in the studio.

*“ACE was a chance to meet and learn from ACE professionals. The program helped me to explore the architecture profession and decide whether or not to pursue my interest in it for college.”*

**Louis Ngonzo-Biyo** – 2008 Scholarship Winner – is studying hard at Catholic University to be a **Civil Engineer**. Demonstrating excellent continuity from ACE in high school to continuing in college, he is also Dr. Gunnar Lucko’s academic advisee. (Dr. Lucko is an active ACE DC Board member and mentored Louis at Bell Multicultural High School).

**Krystal Robinson** – 2003 ACE Scholarship Winner – graduated from Howard University in **Electrical Engineering** and is currently working at **Jacobs Engineering** in Arlington, VA.

**Jeffrey Bronick** – 2007 Scholarship Winner – is now in his fourth and final year at the University of Virginia. He is graduating in May with a Bachelor of Science in **Architecture**.

For the past two years, he has been interning with the Facilities Asset Management Unit under the Department of Homeland Security. This agency is responsible for dealing with the procurement, planning, funding, design, and outsourcing of all buildings to be occupied by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents that serve/work under BEST (Border Enforcement Security Taskforce), FPS (Federal Protective Service), and GSA (General Services Administration). This job involves mostly strategic management and architectural consulting rather than design, which is something that he has become increasingly interested in after working for the government for the past few years. He hopes to get a job with them after graduation.

**Diego Sanchez** – 2009 Scholarship Winner – has been interning under his former ACE mentor Ryan Seymore at **Gauither Alvarado** for the past three years. Transferring from George Mason University, he is a sophomore now attending Northern Virginia Community College and **studying Architecture**.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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ACE now participates in the Combined Federal Campaign (**CFC #89925**) and the United Way Campaign NCA (**#9697**)

**LinkedIn** Join the ACE Mentor Program of America National **LinkedIn** page.

Get connected to fellow mentors and other industry professionals here:

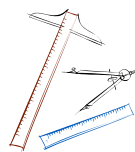
<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2182867>



**Use eBay Missionfish to Support the ACE Mentor Program of the Greater Washington Metro Area**

Donate items to the ACE DC for auction. Or make an impact when you shop and contribute directly from PayPal.

[http://donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP\\_ID=35582](http://donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP_ID=35582)



**In general, the main identifying goals of the ACE DC Affiliate are:**

- Mentors (industry professionals, tradesmen, etc.) for the school year
- Guest Speakers/Mentors (a presentation periodically to students)
- Construction/Site Tours of projects
- Donations/Grant opportunities

If you know of any opportunities, or other items of interest to ACE DC, please feel free to contact Executive Director Trisha Grant at [tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org](mailto:tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org).