

ACE Mentor Program of Omaha has worked with hundreds of students in the Greater Omaha area designing real-life projects under the direction of some of Omaha's top engineering and design professionals. Our mission is to engage, excite, enlighten, and influence the direction of high school students' careers by introducing students to real life experiences in the architecture,

construction, and engineering industries. This volunteer organization supports student participants as they continue their advancement in the industry through the opportunity for an ACE scholarship.

## THE MENTORS

Mentors make all the difference There is no substitute for experience — the ACE Mentor Program is

driven by the committed and enthusiastic participation of volunteer mentors who are practicing professionals in their respective fields. ACE offers high school students the best opportunities because ACE offers the best industry mentors. An assigned team of ACE professionals work with a team of students on a project throughout the school year culminating with a presentation of this project by each school team. David Penka, DLR, ACE Outstanding Mentor of the Year, states, "As a mentor with ACE, I feel like I am not only helping students realize the options for their best futures, but also assisting to build the best future for our industry."



#### **OUR STUDENTS**



The students are engaged in a class within their home school with a curricular emphasis in one of the ACE related career fields. Working in their classrooms under the direction of a team of mentors, they work throughout the year on a designated project. Jenna Reynard, a two time scholarship winner and student at the University of Nebraska-Omaha studying Architectural Engineering states, "The ACE Mentor program gave me the most valuable opportunity of working with professionals in the fields of Architecture, Construction, and Engineering. I was able to better

understand the roles I was interested in and develop new perspectives on the engineering field. This program influenced me to pursue engineering in higher education and an eventual career. I believe all students — interested in engineering or not — should participate in this program. You learn valuable skills that will follow you in any career that you pursue."

# HOW CAN YOU HELP!

# Be a Sponsor. Volunteer. Mentor. Your help is needed!

ACE donors and fundraiser support are crucial to the continuation and success of OUR Omaha affiliate.







Created by the integrated design & construction industry to meet its future workforce needs. Today, industry leaders guide project-based instruction for high school students.

- This program exists in 36 states; has 74 affiliates.
- The greater Omaha chapter was established in 2016
- Join us TODAY to make a difference for TOMORROW!

### MENTORS



- In the greater Omaha area, over 40 industry partners participate: serving as mentors, board members, and committee members.
- Each year the ACE Mentor Committee develops a project for the students; a 16session program throughout the school year providing a project-based experience.
- Annual value of their in-kind services totals \$350,000/year



### **STUDENTS**



- The program serves 137 students in 9 of the greater Omaha public schools from 3 school districts: Omaha Public, Papillion, Westside
- Students are enrolled in a class at their home school where mentors work on real world problems
- Approximately 75% enter a college/trade program in one of the industry areas.

**137** STUDENTS

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS**



- Since 2016, the greater Omaha chapter of ACE has awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships.
- Awarded scholarship students will be attending a college or skilled trade program in an ACE industry related field.
- This year ACE awarded \$37,000 in scholarship/internship opportunities, and we had a national scholarship winner for \$12,000.

OVER **\$100K** 

SINCE 2016

CONTACT US TO SEE HOW YOUR COMPANY CAN BECOME INVOLVED! Tom Penney, Chairperson of the Board; tpenney@dlrgroup.com Jan Christensen, Program Director; janchristensen.acementor@gmail.com