



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM OF THE MIDLANDS
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

MENTOR RECRUITMENT

March 16, 2018

Dear Industry Professional,

The ACE Mentor Program has a goal to **engage**, **excite**, and **enlighten** high school students to pursue careers in architecture, construction and engineering through mentoring and to support their continued advancement in our profession. Industry professionals volunteer to become mentors to high school students in order to introduce them to the professions and encourage them to pursue studies and careers in these fields. In return, the industry gets a much-needed boost of new, diverse talent. An information sheet regarding how the program works is attached to this letter and more information is available at www.acementor.org.

ACE of the Midlands is currently looking for mentors to become part of the ACE family. A talented professional, such as yourself, would be an exceptional addition to introduce students to the architectural, construction, and engineering professions. We have arranged a week long summer program for eighth and ninth graders from the Richland Two School District on July 9th-12th from 8:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M. Nine professionals from the three aforementioned professions would be assisting with facilitating this camp at R2I2 for as many as 30 students. After this summer event we hope to carry on a full after school program in the fall.

If you are interested in becoming an ACE Midlands Mentor for this or other upcoming programs please visit our website at www.acementor.org/mentors-volunteers/ to register and complete a background check.

If you or your company is not able to serve as a mentor there are other ways to contribute to the students who will become our coworkers. Spread the word about ACE of the Midlands, about our mission, and help foster an interest for young students for our line of work.

Please consider joining our family and help with our goal to inspire the students who will become the future of our profession. We hope to hear from you soon!

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Sims Branham, AIA
ACE of the Midlands Chairman
LS3P Associates
Vice President, Principal, Office Leader
(803) 765-2418
marybethbranham@ls3p.com

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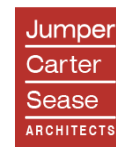
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ACE MENTOR PROGRAM OF THE MIDLANDS
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

ARCHITECTURE, CONSTRUCTION & ENGINEERING INNOVATIVE LEARNING SESSION

SUMMER PROGRAM • 8TH & 9TH GRADERS

(Details to Follow)



JOIN US AT R2I2
JULY 9TH-12TH
8:30am - 3:30pm



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

ABOUT US

About ACE:

Will there be enough architects, construction managers and engineers to fill the industry's needs ten years from now? The ACE Mentor Program of America, Inc. is working hard to make sure there are. ACE is an acronym for architecture, construction, and engineering.

The program's mission is to engage, excite and enlighten high school students to pursue careers in the integrated construction industry through mentoring; and to support their continued advancement in the industry through scholarships and grants.

ACE is a unique partnership among industry professionals — architects, interior designers, landscape architects, mechanical, structural, electrical, environmental and civil engineers, construction managers, college and university representatives, and other professionals from related corporations and professional organizations - who work together to attract young people to their professions.

Industry professionals volunteer to become mentors to high school students in order to introduce them to the professions and encourage them to pursue studies and careers in these fields. In return, the industry gets a much-needed boost of new talent.

How ACE Works:

ACE is made up of affiliates that serve youth within a certain city or region. Each affiliate has a board of directors, a local coordinator, and a number of teams. Teams are composed of 15-25 students and their industry mentors. Each team is set up to emulate an actual design team, with students guided through a mock design project by their architect, engineer, and construction management mentors. Several companies will be assigned to each team, each providing one or two mentors. Mentors guide the students as they work towards a final project, introducing them to the careers, industry vocabulary, and various roles companies play in the construction industry.

ACE runs for the duration of the school year. The teams meet for approximately 15 sessions, for about two hours after school. In addition to these team sessions, there are also all-team and field trips to construction sites.

Each team meets on a specific day of the week. The meetings are held either in schools or at the offices of the firms to give the students as authentic an experience as possible.

At the end of the year, all of the teams, in each location, gather for a final presentation night (which we urge corporations to attend and support). Here they present their designs to the other teams, their families, teachers, prospective mentors and the affiliate administrators so all can share in the students' accomplishments.

The students' involvement in the program does not end here. Many remain active alumni of the program through the scholarships they receive, relationships they develop with their mentors, and future employment opportunities they exercise — such as internships and post-college jobs.

Benefits to your company:

Besides feeding the pipeline with the next generation of A/E industry workforce, your company will benefit from its involvement with ACE in the following ways:

- 1. Enhancement of company image, within the industry and community*
- 2. Networking opportunities for mentors and principals*
- 3. Connects your firm to talented and motivated part-time help and potential future employees*
- 4. Enhances young professionals presentation and communication skills*
- 5. Creates an opportunity to “give back” to your community and your industry*

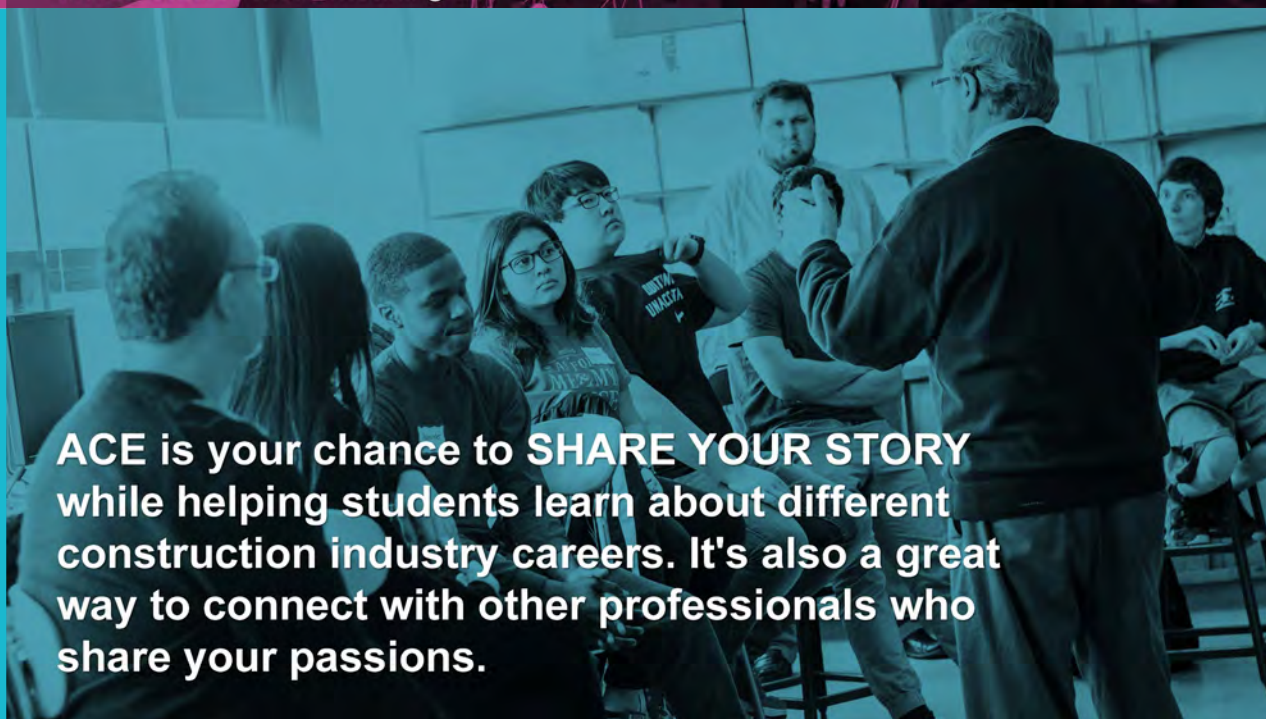
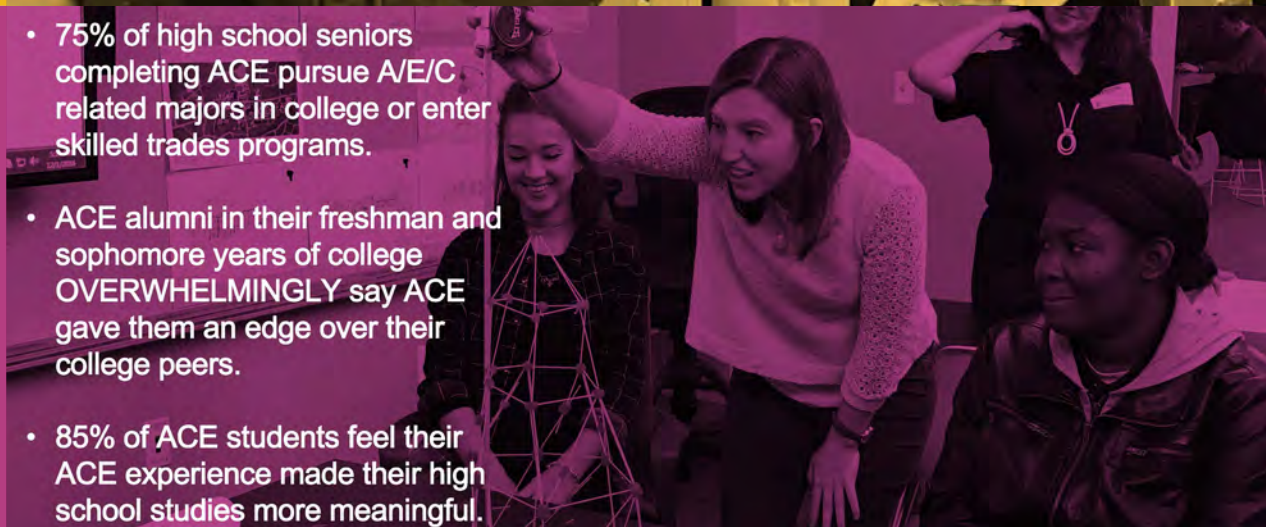


OUR MISSION

To **ENGAGE**, **EXCITE** and **ENLIGHTEN** high school students to pursue careers in architecture, engineering and construction through mentoring and to support their continued advancement in the industry.



- 75% of high school seniors completing ACE pursue A/E/C related majors in college or enter skilled trades programs.
- ACE alumni in their freshman and sophomore years of college **OVERWHELMINGLY** say ACE gave them an edge over their college peers.
- 85% of ACE students feel their ACE experience made their high school studies more meaningful.



ACE is your chance to SHARE YOUR STORY while helping students learn about different construction industry careers. It's also a great way to connect with other professionals who share your passions.



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

ACE ADVANCES ARCHITECTURE WORKFORCE



Engage Excite Enlighten

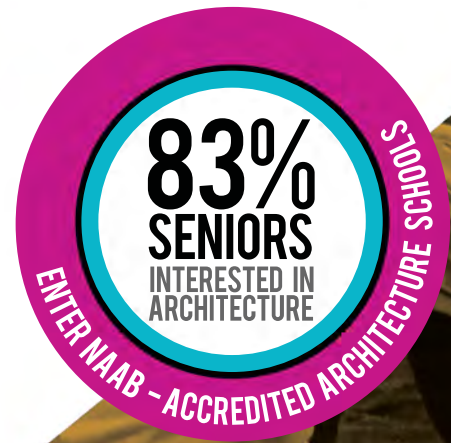


MOTIVATES STUDENTS

TO PURSUE DESIGN-RELATED CAREERS

96% SENIORS INTERESTED IN ARCHITECTURE

REPORT ACE STRENGTHENED THEIR COMMITMENT TO THIS CAREER OR PERSUADED THEM TO PURSUE IT



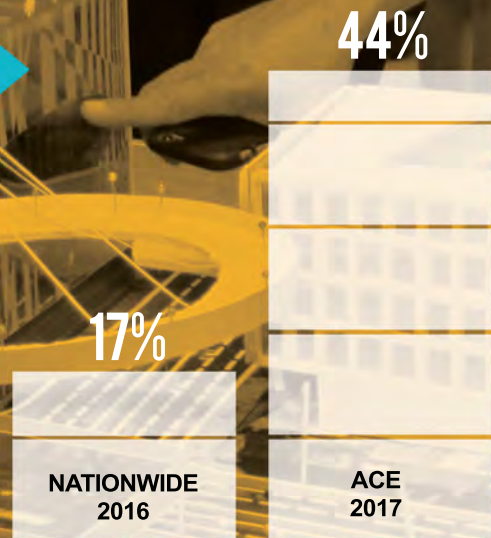
26% OF ALL ACE HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ENTER COLLEGE PLANNING TO MAJOR IN ARCHITECTURE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE INTERIOR DESIGN, OR URBAN PLANNING.



INCREASES DIVERSITY

53% WOMEN

58% MINORITY



RECENT ACE ALUMNI (2012-2016)
MOST FROM UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS

MAJORING / WORKING IN A DESIGN-RELATED FIELD

AFRICAN-AMERICAN + HISPANIC COLLEGE FRESHMEN

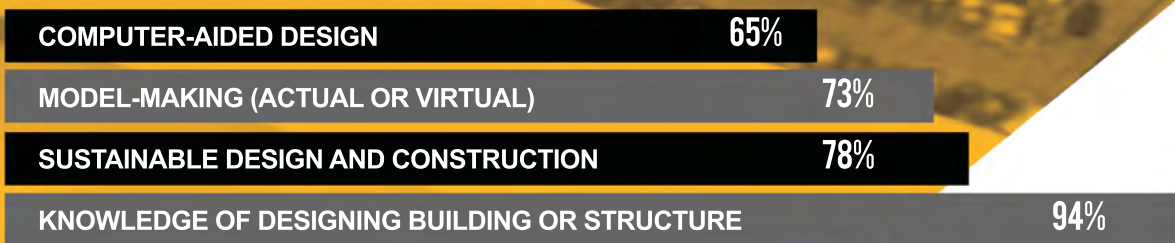
PLANNING AN ARCHITECTURE MAJOR



TEACHES VALUABLE SKILLS

% STUDENTS STRONGLY / MODERATELY AGREEING

DESIGN SKILLS



CONTINUES TO BENEFIT

ACE PROGRAM ALUMNI



I gained **real world experience** of what it's like to be an architect and work alongside people in **other professions**. Being in ACE also gave me valuable pieces for my **portfolio**.

- 2016 ACE alumna, Cornell University

88%
ALUMNI

AGREE ACE GAVE THEM

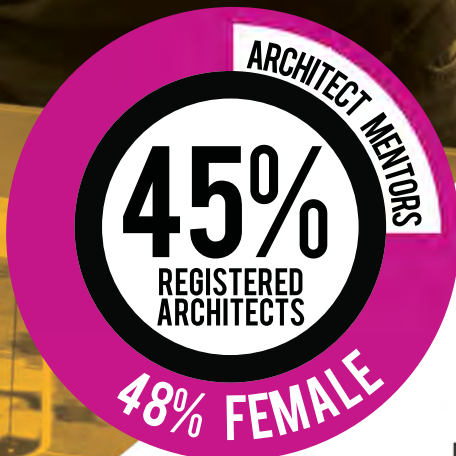
- ▶ EDGE OVER THEIR COLLEGE PEERS
- ▶ PROFESSIONAL NETWORK USEFUL FOR CAREER ADVANCEMENT

22%
RECENT ALUMNI
(2012-2016)

PURSUCE COLLEGE MAJORS OR HOLD PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS IN ARCHITECTURE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, INTERIOR DESIGN, OR URBAN PLANNING.

IMPACTS MENTORS

PROFESSIONALLY + PERSONALLY



34%
OF ACE MENTORS ARE

ARCHITECTS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
INTERIOR DESIGNERS
& URBAN PLANNERS

49%

LEADERSHIP ABILITIES STRENGTHENED

56%

ABILITY TO EXPLAIN TECHNICAL CONCEPTS IMPROVED

63%

SATISFACTION RECRUITING NEXT A-E-C GENERATION

73%

PROFESSIONAL NETWORK EXTENDED

75%

PLEASURE SHARING MY PASSION FOR THE INDUSTRY

MENTOR BENEFITS
% MENTORS AGREEING

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION ABILITY IMPROVED

76%

SENSE OF CREATIVITY STRENGTHENED

79%

ORAL COMMUNICATION ABILITY IMPROVED

80%

TEAMWORK ABILITY IMPROVED


86%

**WORKFORCE
SKILLS**





ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

A photograph of a man with short dark hair and a goatee, wearing a dark vest over a light-colored shirt and tie. He is looking slightly to the right. In the background, there are architectural drawings and a poster titled 'the CONCEPT' with sub-headings 'HEALTHY ECONOMY' and 'HEALTHY PEOPLE'.

ACE is an incredible program that strengthens connections among professionals, empowers new students to take on amazing challenges, and promotes collaboration within our diverse fields.


- Landscape architect mentor, Denver, CO



ACE ADVANCES ARCHITECTURE WORKFORCE

Two purple triangles pointing to the right, one slightly larger than the other.

BY ATTRACTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, INTERIOR DESIGNERS, AND URBAN PLANNERS, **ACE PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN ADDRESSING** THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY'S **WORKFORCE NEEDS.**

A photograph of two young women sitting at a table, looking at a model or drawing. The woman on the left has long brown hair and is wearing glasses. The woman on the right has dark hair and is wearing a yellow top. They appear to be in a workshop or classroom setting.

ACE has ignited my passion for architecture. Thanks to ACE, I have developed an appreciation of how architects work. The help I have received from my mentors is irreplaceable.

- Student, Raleigh, NC

THE ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

ACE's **70 affiliates** operate in 37 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Approximately 3,600 mentors annually engage 9,000 students from 1,000 schools in a **free, 15-session afterschool program.** Two-thirds of students are from minority and underserved populations. More than one-third are female. Since its start in 1994, ACE has awarded \$15M+ in scholarships.

www.acementor.org

DATA SOURCES

This report's data are drawn from three large-scale surveys (2017) of students, alumni (classes of 2012-16) and mentors. The surveys' margins of error range from 1.5% to 2.2%. The statistic about national freshmen studying architecture is from Higher Education Research Institute, UCLA, 2016 *CIRP Freshman Survey.*



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
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ACE EXPANDS ENGINEERING WORKFORCE



Engage Excite Enlighten



MOTIVATES STUDENTS

TO PURSUE ENGINEERING CAREERS

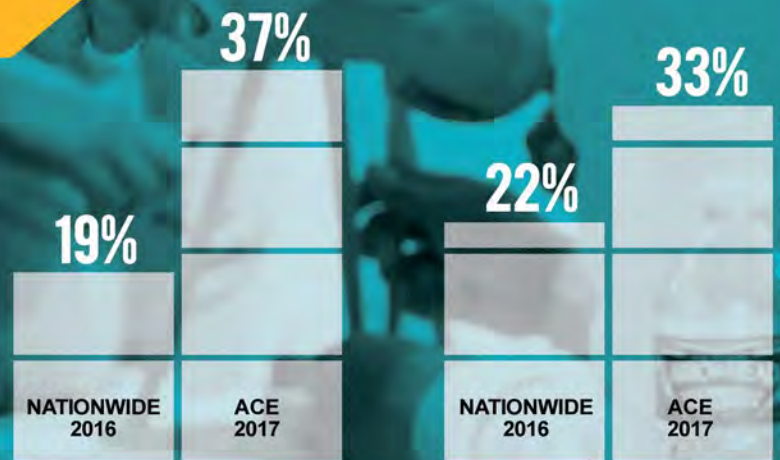
96% SENIORS INTERESTED IN ENGINEERING

REPORT ACE STRENGTHENED THEIR COMMITMENT TO THIS CAREER OR PERSUADED THEM TO PURSUE IT

40% ACE HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ENTER COLLEGE PLANNING AN ENGINEERING MAJOR RELATED TO CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.



EXPANDS DIVERSITY



AFRICAN-AMERICAN + HISPANIC

WOMEN

RECENT ACE ALUMNI (2012-2016)

MAJORING/WORKING IN CONSTRUCTION-RELATED ENGINEERING FIELDS

COLLEGE FRESHMEN

PLANNING AN ENGINEERING MAJOR



TEACHES VALUABLE SKILLS

% STUDENTS STRONGLY / MODERATELY AGREEING

ENGINEERING DESIGN SKILLS

COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN 65%

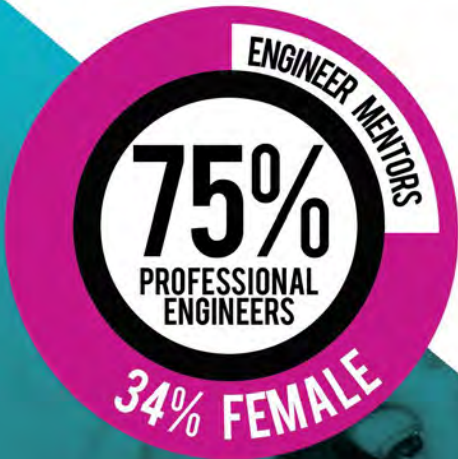
BASIC ENGINEERING PRINCIPLES 70%

MECH., ELEC., PLUMB. INFRASTRUCTURE 75%

KNOWLEDGE OF DESIGNING BUILDING OR STRUCTURE 92%

ACE showed me the **lack of diversity for women and minorities in engineering**, but my involvement in the program also affirmed my abilities to **transcend these barriers**.

– 2015 ACE alumna, Carnegie Mellon University



CONTINUES TO BENEFIT

ACE PROGRAM ALUMNI



85%
ALUMNI

AGREE ACE GAVE THEM

- ▶ EDGE OVER THEIR COLLEGE PEERS
- ▶ PROFESSIONAL NETWORK USEFUL FOR CAREER ADVANCEMENT

38%
RECENT ALUMNI
(2012-2016)

PURSUE COLLEGE MAJORS OR HOLD PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS IN CIVIL, STRUCTURAL, MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING.

IMPACTS MENTORS

PROFESSIONALLY + PERSONALLY



29%
OF ACE MENTORS ARE

**STRUCTURAL
MECHANICAL
GEOTECHNICAL
ENVIRONMENTAL &
ELECTRICAL
CIVIL ENGINEERS**

MENTOR BENEFITS

% MENTORS AGREEING

52% KNOWLEDGE ABOUT A-E-C INDUSTRY OUTSIDE MY FIELD EXPANDED

55% ABILITY TO EXPLAIN TECHNICAL CONCEPTS IMPROVED

72% PLEASURE SHARING MY PASSION FOR THE INDUSTRY

75% PROFESSIONAL NETWORK EXTENDED

PROBLEM-SOLVING ABILITY STRENGTHENED **72%**

LEADERSHIP COMPETENCE GREW **75%**

ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS IMPROVED **78%**

TEAMWORK ABILITY INCREASED **86%**

**WORKFORCE
SKILLS**





ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
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ACE helped me develop people skills, leadership skills, and allowed me to **gain hands-on experience in engineering fields.**

-- Student, Dallas, TX



ACE EXPANDS ENGINEERING WORKFORCE

BY ATTRACTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CIVIL, STRUCTURAL, MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERS, ACE PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN ADDRESSING THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY'S WORKFORCE NEEDS.

I've learned of the **genuine interest of the younger generation** in engineering and have been **inspired to keep spreading the word** that engineering is fruitful and worthwhile.

- Civil Engineer Mentor, New York City

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