



ACE in Atlanta

ACE Atlanta 2009-2010 Program Newsletter # 11 - January 22, 2010



ACE Atlanta thanks **Panola** for their generous Food Sponsorship of the ACE Atlanta 2009-2010 Program!

Announcement Section

- Your **BELTINE FIELD TRIP PERMISSION FORM IS DUE WED, JANUARY 27, 2010.** The form was emailed out to the entire mentor/student group on January 14th, and January 21st. It was also distributed in class. If ACE doesn't get your form on Wed, Jan 27th, you will not be able to participate in the field trip.
- **Student teams picked up two 24 X 36 inch foamboards on January 20th to use for their final projects.** Please let Rachel Hendrix know if you need to pick up your team boards on Wednesday, January 27th.
- **Next class: MOCK INTERVIEWS, January 27, 2010** - bring in two copies of your resume for your mock interviews!

ACE Atlanta Students Present Their Designs

On Wednesday, January 20, 2010, ACE students had the opportunity to present their project designs to a distinguished panel of judges. ACE Atlanta thanks Oscar Harris, Garfield Peart, Ryan Smith, Jimmy Mitchell and Don Casey for the generous contribution of their time to share their professional feedback and advice to our students.

The following students signed in or presented during the January 20th class.

- Gabriel A., Lithonia High School
- Branniton B., Lithonia High School
- Ian B., Benjamin Mays High School
- Christopher B., Lithonia High School
- Eddie D., Stephenson High School
- Sherline D., Lithonia High School
- Eddie D., Stephenson High School
- Stephen D., Lithonia High School
- Andrew H., Benjamin Mays High School
- Martin J., Stephenson High School
- Austin L., Stephenson High School
- Marquevious M., Stephenson High School
- Killian O., Lithonia High School
- Sanni Olu, Lithonia High School
- Marcus P., Southwest Atlanta Christian Academy
- Gary T., Lithonia High School
- Niambi T., Benjamin Mays High School
- Melvin W., Lithonia High School

Students! It is crucial that you sign in for each class. Attendance and participation are keys to your success.

If you cannot attend class, it is your responsibility to let ACE know in advance. You can send an email to rachel.hendrix@skanska.com or call (404) 946-7439.

To be a successful ACE student, you must participate in the final presentations.



Internship Opportunities

ACE Atlanta thanks Scott Shelar, Executive Director of the Construction Education Foundation of Georgia (CEFGA) and Monica Finley, Outreach Support Manager of International Aviation Consultants, LLC and the Hartsfield Development Program for visiting with us to talk about their exciting paid summer internship opportunities.

Scott has been involved with ACE since its start in Atlanta, serving as a Board Director, Mentor and financial supporter. Scott talked about the application process for CEFGA summer internships, what they could be like, and how to learn more about CEFGA. In addition, Scott let the group know about the upcoming Career Expo which will take place March 11 & 12, 2010 at the Georgia International Convention Center in College Park, GA. Students are encouraged to ask their school advisors about whether or not their high schools will be participating.

The following is information from a CEFGA press release that can be found on their website, www.cefga.org:

“More than 4,000 Georgia high school, middle school and technical college students will converge on the Georgia International Convention Center in College Park March 11-12 for the sixth annual CareerExpo and SkillsUSA State Championships. This event, sponsored by private employers, trade associations and government agencies, attracts thousands of students, teachers, school administrators, parents, industry spectators and volunteers every year. The purpose of the CareerExpo is to promote careers in construction, transportation and energy in a fun, hands-on and interactive way. The SkillsUSA State Championships are a showcase of the top skilled high school and technical college talent in Georgia.”

Thank you as well to Monica Finely for visiting the class to talk about the internship opportunities with the Construction Skills Development Institute (CSDI) through the Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance. ACE Atlanta also gratefully thanks Joe Jackson, President and CEO of the Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance. He has served as an ACE Board Director and supported ACE Atlanta financially and with internship opportunities.



Monica distributed CSDI’s brochure with information about the internship program. Students must be recommended by their teachers. If qualified, the students attend a basic construction training course at Atlanta Technical College.

Please visit their website at www.alliance4u.org to learn more about CSDI. You can also see photos of CSDI students participating in last year’s Career Expo at the Georgia International Convention Center.



Design Critique

We thank Oscar Harris, Garfield Peart, and Ryan Smith for being the Architectural panel component. We thank Jimmy Mitchell and Don Casey for being Preconstruction panel component - each panel member offered very helpful feedback that the students can use as they continue to develop their projects. The Design Critique was uniquely designed to assist the students by providing honest and constructive feedback to their designs so far.

Not all of the ACE student teams participated in the Design Critique. ACE Atlanta was delighted that the following teams participated in the Design Critique.

Team Name	Team Members	Project Choice
U.E.A. (Universal Engineer Associates)	Eddie D., Martin J., Marquevius M., and Austin L.	The Ideal School
Mays Co-Op - name may be changing!	Andrew H., Niambi T., Ian B., Shane M. and Marcus P.	Green Housing Row
To be determined	Melvin W., Killian O., Sherline D., and Christopher B.	The Ideal School

For the teams that chose not to present on January 20th, you are still able to reach out to any of your mentors for advice and feedback. We are more than happy to discuss your project with you. Projects are key to your success.

Thank you to our Session Mentors!

ACE Atlanta would like to thank the following mentors and guests for their enthusiastic participation!

- Oscar Harris, Turner & Associates Architects & Planners
- Garfield Peart, PBS&J
- Ryan Smith
- Scott Shelar, CEFGA
- Monica Finley, International Aviation Consultants, LLC
- Jimmy Mitchell, Skanska
- Don Casey, Skanska
- Chris Cole, Syska
- Elijah Cannon, Lithonia HS
- Rachel Hendrix, Skanska
- Linda McCoy, IBG Construction Services LLC
- Theresa Smith, Skanska
- Winston Williams, Turner

The panel offered a lot of great advice. Some points were:

- Practice as a team so your presentation is polished and flows well.
- PowerPoint presentations allow everyone in the room to see your work. If you have drawings on paper, only the panel can see what work your team has done.
- Use your last name when introducing yourself - be proud of your last name!
- Tell us "How", "Where" and "Why".
- Project budget details are important. Tell us why the building is priced as you have it.
- Project your voice! If you speak too softly, not everyone can hear you.
- Talk about how your project impacts the community.
- Place your project in a physical environment. Remember Oscar's statement that you are not designing a spaceship floating in space. Root your project in its environment.
- Your appearance is part of your presentation.
- Remember that the judges will choose one presentation to submit for the National competition. Your boards will be shipped by ACE - plan their design accordingly!
- **VERY IMPORTANT: RE-READ YOUR RFP DOCUMENT CAREFULLY.** That document tells you exactly what you need to include in your presentation and what points need to be made.
- **REMEMBER: PROJECT LOCATION IS METRO ATLANTA!**

Students! If you or your team would like additional time to discuss your project with mentors, please let Rachel Hendrix know.

Your mentors have offered to meet with you here at Skanska after school to discuss your project. We will arrange to have a couple of "help" sessions depending on need. Time and date will depend on everyone's schedules.

