



FOR: THE ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

CONTACT: John Woodman
The ACE Mentor Program of Greater New York
718-816-7249

Bruce Ross Associates Inc.
Media: Bruce Ross
212-768-1155

NEW YORK ACE MENTOR STUDENTS CELEBRATE AT YANKEE STADIUM

-- Second Largest Employment Industry In The U.S. Sponsors Program That
Addresses Growing Need For Talented Professionals --

New York, NY, April 30, 2008 – The Greater New York City affiliate of the Architecture, Construction and Engineering (ACE) Mentor Program, in conjunction with the New York Yankees, held an event at Yankee Stadium to recognize the achievements of local high school students who have participated in the organization’s mentoring activities.

The ACE Mentor Program was created to address the growing need for skilled professionals in the architecture, construction and engineering industries - a shortage that could become a crisis if current trends continue. The ACE Mentor Program of Greater New York is part of a nationwide program of outreach and mentoring for students in 106 markets across the country where ACE has a presence. The mentors are professionals from leading design and construction firms who volunteer their time and energy to engage, inform, and challenge youth.

“The construction industry is the second-largest employer in the U.S. With 50 percent of all buildings that will exist by the year 2030 not even built yet, it is a growing industry. However, current statistics project that the need for qualified, skilled individuals working in the field will far exceed the supply, with over 1 million job openings by 2012,” said Dr. Charles H. Thornton, Founder and Chairman of ACE. “This is a crisis that we cannot afford – the growth of our country depends on finding solutions. These national and local initiatives will help to begin the careers of a new generation of talented professionals and marks an historic opportunity for us to make a difference and continue the growth of an industry that is so important.”

The Yankee Stadium event recognized the efforts of mentors from area companies as well as the 19 students from Bronx high schools who participated in the program. In addition to being exposed to the ACE industry through presentations and onsite visits, the students were assigned a project to complete; they formed groups to design the

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ACE Mentor Program of America

400 Main Street Suite 711 • Stamford, CT 06901 •
203-323-8550 • 203-323-7298 • www.acementor.org

Career Directions for Students in Architecture, Construction and Engineering

Monument Park for the new Yankee Stadium. The students are working on the project from the construction site trailers at the stadium. Their mentors are from the various companies working on the new stadium, including owner's representative, architect, structural engineer, mechanical engineer and construction manager.

"With the help of the New York Yankees and many of the companies involved with the stadium construction, our student groups are getting an unprecedented opportunity to observe and participate in a historic construction project," commented Peter Chorman, from Tishman Speyer and Team Leader for the group. "This is exactly the type of 'hands on' experience we are trying to provide for students in order to get them involved and excited about a potential career in the ACE industry."

About the ACE Mentor Program

The ACE Mentor Program 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 twofold: to enlighten and motivate students toward architecture, construction, engineering, and related careers; and to provide mentoring opportunities for future designers and constructors. 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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