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TEXAS STATE SENATOR LETICIA VAN DE PUTTE RECOGNIZES THE STUDENTS AND MENTORS OF THE ACE MENTOR PROGRAM OF GREATER SAN ANTONIO

Austin, TX (April 2, 2013) – Texas State Senator Leticia Van de Putte recognized the efforts of the ACE Mentor Program of Greater San Antonio students and mentors from the floor of the Senate and is hosting a special exhibit at the Capitol South Central Gallery April 1-5 showcasing student projects both past and present. After Senator Van de Putte recognized ACE from the Senate floor, she met the students separately to give them words of encouragement. She shared how her purpose in inviting ACE to the Texas Capitol was to make the community aware of the volunteer work the ACE industry is providing, the partnerships that are being developed with the students, and the great work the students are producing as a result.

The AIA San Antonio Chapter is the exhibit sponsor and has been a supporter for the San Antonio affiliate since it’s inception in 2006.

The ACE Mentor Program of Greater San Antonio is an affiliate of the ACE Mentor Program of America, a non-profit organization that provides outreach and mentoring for high school students across the country. The ACE Mentor Program was developed to address the growing need for architecture, construction, and engineering professionals nationwide and to bridge the gap between education and the profession. The mentors are professionals from leading design, engineering, and construction firms who volunteer their time and energy to engage, inform, and challenge youth.

A sample of San Antonio firms providing volunteers include: Joeris, Marmon Mok, OCO Architects, Jaster-Quintanilla, Bartlett-Cocke, Ford Powell & Carson, Open Studio Architecture, Alamo Architects, Michael Baker Jr., Inc., CNG Engineering, Civil Engineering Consultants, BoDen, LLC, The City of San Antonio, Garza/Bomberger, Turner Construction, Guido/Sundt, WKMC Architects, RVK, MW Cude Engineers.
About the South Central Gallery Capitol Exhibit
The exhibit represents student work from four teams in San Antonio; Highlands HS (SAISD), Lanier HS (SAISD), John Jay HS/Science & Engineering Academy (NISD), and Jefferson HS (SAISD). The team projects are developed with the help of mentors who work with the students to design building, parks, and landscapes that are meaningful and impactful to their community. The projects on display tackle issues such as economic development, adaptive reuse, and neighborhood revitalization.

The academic advisor for the ACE Jay/SEA Team is Luis Rivera. His dedication to the students and commitment to the ACE program has contributed to the success of ACE.

About ACE
The ACE Mentor Program is a nationwide effort to introduce high school students to architecture, construction, and engineering. Founded in 1994. It is now the construction industry’s fastest-growing high school mentoring program, operating in 62 affiliates covering 40 states, and over 200 cities. ACE of Greater San Antonio is operated entirely by volunteers from the ACE industry who expose students to real-world opportunities and financially support the students’ continued success through scholarships. Since ACE’s introduction to San Antonio in 2006, over $20,000 in scholarships have been awarded locally. Of the students that are reached, 70% are minorities and 40% are young women. For additional information, visit www.acementor.org.