Welcome! It is exciting to celebrate another successful year for the ACE Mentor Program of Cleveland. Since the organization’s founding in 2008, we’ve awarded $815,000 in scholarships to ACE students, engaged 150 mentors, guided nearly 900 students through our programs and supported 150 students on their journey to study architecture, engineering or construction and other majors in college. I am so proud of what our volunteers have been able to accomplish this year.

From the start, we have stayed true to ACE’s mission to ENGAGE, EXCITE and ENLIGHTEN high school students to pursue careers in architecture, engineering and construction. With a strong mission guiding us, we’ve grown to 11 ACE programs, including the addition of Ted Ginn Leadership Academy and John Marshall High School this coming year.

But there is much work yet to do. Our Board Leadership continues to focus on the execution of our three-year strategic plan, which began last year. The strategic plan action items provide the blueprint we will use to steadily grow our programs and provide opportunities for more students to participate in the ACE experience.

This work would not be possible without the incredible, ongoing commitment of our volunteer base of 150 industry professionals. Their involvement has been an essential component in our ability to provide a quality mentoring program and project-based learning experiences that introduce the technical aspects of the ACE fields to young people. These volunteers consistently give 110% through mentoring and internships, as well as guidance and advice. And through our college partners – Cleveland State University, Cuyahoga Community College, Kent State University and The University of Akron – and the matching scholarships they provide, we round out our students’ experiences and position them well for the future.

On behalf of the Board and the students we serve, I want to thank our mentors, volunteers, college partners and community partners like College NOW for the continued commitment to student achievement. I also want to extend a milestone “Thank You” to University Hospital for its initial and ongoing financial support of scholarships for our students, to The Cleveland Foundation for its major support, and to the Construction Employers Association, Sodexo and the 25 industry associations that support our fundraising and volunteer needs.

With warm regards,

Tari Rivera
BOARD CHAIR
About ACE Mentor Program
Cleveland

Since its inception in 2008, the Cleveland affiliate of the ACE Mentor Program has partnered with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) and now features ten CSMD teams as well as Warrensville Heights High School totaling nearly 180 students.

- Collinwood High School
- High Tech Academy
- John Hay School of Architecture and Design*
- John Marshall School of Engineering
- James F. Rhodes High School
- Max Hayes High School
- New Tech East
- New Tech West
- Ted Ginn Leadership Academy
- Warrensville Heights High School

Approximately 150 volunteers from more than 70 local firms from the design, engineering, and construction industry participate in the program.

*TWO ACE TEAMS

ACE Mentor Gala

ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS
2018

NATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

More than 90% of students believe ACE motivated their desire to go to college.

84% of students feel ACE made high school studies more meaningful.

72% of seniors entering college this fall plan to study ACE-related majors.

LOCAL DEMOGRAPHICS

39.3% of students have been with ACE for one year; 33% have been involved for two years.

54% of students are male; 46% female.

65% of students are African-American; 17% Hispanic; 10% Mixed Race; 6% White.

NUTS & BOLTS

48 students responded to ACE Cleveland survey.

Most respondents learned life skills and knowledge/skills not taught in high school.

Majority of students affirmed that ACE gave them useful information on ACE careers.

WHAT STUDENTS GAINED

Leadership experience and skills; how to communicate better in group settings.

Ability to work collaboratively.

How to negotiate and manage time effectively.
Glen Shumate has served as the Executive Director of Cleveland ACE Mentoring since 2014. Unbeknownst to Glen, his path towards ACE started in 2008 when the Construction Employer’s Association (CEA) developed the Construction Management Academy Program (CMAP) at the same time that the ACE Program was in its infancy. CMAP’s objective was to educate students about the construction industry and advocate for them to consider that career path for their future. In this way there was tremendous synergy between CMAP and the mission of ACE.

In 2010, when University Hospitals made its initial scholarship commitment of $200,000 for the ACE Mentoring Program, it became apparent that ACE had the potential to grow in scope and scale well beyond what was envisioned for CMAP. For this reason, the two organizations came together and CEA dedicated the resources and focus of CMAP into ACE. A few years later, CEA’s Executive Vice President Glen Shumate was invited to join the board. During the 2013-2014 ACE Program year, the organization determined that ACE Cleveland needed a leader and that Glen was the man for the job.

“A philosophy that I believe and share is that Exposure, Education and Experience are vital to personal and professional career development and at its core that is what the ACE Mentor program provides”.

Glen has continued the positive momentum of the program, increasing the overall size of the program, expanding community partnerships and increasing Board engagement. These activities have put ACE Cleveland on a path of sustainable success for the near and long-term future. When asked about what he envisions for the future of ACE, Glen focused on two areas.

First, increased engagement of existing students in developing future generations of ACE. “I think about a group of ACE students going into a middle school classroom and over the course of a few days over weeks, perhaps accomplishing a mini-project and planting the seeds with those 6th, 7th and 8th graders that ACE is something they want to be part of in high school,” Glen said. The second area that Glen highlighted is the continued growth of the Career Pathways program within ACE. “This effort has progressed leaps and bounds over the last few years, in no small part to our committee leaders” (Alethea Ganaway of Tri-C and Jack Baumann of Donley’s).

As it continues to develop and mature, we can truly fulfill the cycle of ACE, engaging students in high school, providing scholarship dollars and internships or co-ops through college and then having employment opportunities in Cleveland that keep them local.” All of ACE’s students, alumni, volunteers and stakeholders are grateful to CEA and to Glen for the service and leadership that he has provided to our organization.

TyJuan Swanson’s passion for architecture is evident from the moment you speak to him, so when he became a junior at John Hay’s Cleveland School of Architecture & Design it was no surprise that his teachers recommend he join the ACE Mentor Program. Today TyJuan is a senior at Kent State University majoring in architecture thanks in part to scholarships provided by ACE, and largely due to his hard work ethic and drive to set a positive example for his family.

This summer TyJuan spent his time interning with ACE sponsor Then Design Architecture, a firm dedicated to creating spaces that have a positive impact on people. With a vision to change the world with community-driven design, TyJuan was the perfect candidate for the position. Through relationships and knowledge built in the ACE Mentor Program, TyJuan was able to leverage his work ethic and passion to move him closer to his personal and professional goals.

TyJuan’s future aspirations are to change communities by way of impactful designs and to one day himself enrich the life of an ACE student, much like himself.
OUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET

The foundation of the ACE Mentoring Program of Cleveland is the 150+ mentors who dedicate countless hours of their time each year in the classroom, in preparation of lessons and in building personal relationships with the our ACE students. In addition to the time spent in the classroom nearly all of our mentors form structured mentoring relationships with graduating seniors, keeping in touch with them through college and working to keep them connected to both the A/E/C industry and the Northeast Ohio region.

Here is a small sample of what our mentors mean in the words of our students:

Margaret (Margaret Hewitt of The Construction Green Team) is one of my favorite people. I aspire to be like her. Besides my mother as my role model, Margaret is my second role model. During my senior year in high school, we talked about work and personal things. She helped me to make plans, even though I am not much of a planner. Margaret helped me understand the construction field. During my internship, she helped me understand and know why things are the way they are. She’s my first real mentor and the best I’ve had.

– IMANI YOUNG

It was great experience to get from someone who has so much knowledge of the field; who has been through it for ten plus years and get their perspective. They’ve been through college, they’ve been through the field. They have given me a good idea of what I have to come, so its really well prepared me.

– ALEXANDER MORALES

Mentor of the Year

In 2012, the Courtney E. Behm Volunteer of the Year Award was established in recognition of the service that Courtney Behm during the first several years of Cleveland ACE Mentoring’s infancy. Each year a volunteer is recognized for their exceptional contributions to the program. This year, Renee Shirey of Stantec was named as our Volunteer of the Year.

Renee has been a mentor for Cleveland’s ACE program since 2010, increasingly taking a leadership role within her ACE classroom, first at James Rhodes High School and for the last 7 years, for New Tech West Academy.
Supporting THE ACE MENTOR PROGRAM OF CLEVELAND

ACE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

$140,000 in 2018

$815,000+ since 2008

140 Scholarship Recipients

Our sincere thanks to each of these strategic partners for their financial support and leadership of ACE Mentorings!

sodexo

University Hospitals

ACE

Construction Employers Association

Cleveland State University

Kent State University

The University of Akron

Cuyahoga Community College

ACE is a volunteer led organization that spends every dollar raised on the support of the students and our mission to engage, excite and enlighten about career opportunities in the architecture, engineering and construction fields. If you are interested in enhancing the mission of ACE Mentoring of Cleveland please contact Mark Panzica via mpanzica@panzica.com.
Over her 19-year career as a teacher, Sarah Dalrymple has touched the lives of thousands of high-school-aged students. Sarah, or Miss D as her students affectionately call her, consciously plans each lesson to foster student’s strengths at a time in their lives when it is most critical to future success. Guided by a principle to never complain about her work more than she brags about it, Miss D seeks to nourish students to help them realize or achieve their goals.

As a driving force in creating Cleveland’s first ACE Mentor Program team, Miss D is a strong advocate of the program. And even admittedly “still cries at every presentation night” as she swells with pride for the hard work of so many students. Miss D is a firm believer in the power of influencing students’ lives by giving them direction and simply taking a committed interest in their lives. In an effort to continually enrich the lives of her students, Miss D realized the positive impact the mentorship relationships developed in ACE had on her students.

Thanks to the hard work of Miss D and her colleagues at John Hay’s Cleveland School of Architecture & Design, the ACE Mentor Program has become so successful among students that enrollment in the program is consistently full. As the success rates of students in ACE continues to grow, we are reminded of how important mentorship can be in creating a positive future for our youth.

In an effort to focus solely on providing guidance in students’ lives, Miss D is currently pursuing a degree in counseling; and will forever be a proud advocate of enriching students lives through the ACE Mentor Program.
When Javon Miller learned that Trinity High School did not offer the ACE program, he took action to find a way to attend. Javon has participated with the students at Warrensville High School, because he knew it was an opportunity he didn’t want to miss. Javon has always had an interest in architecture. “I always loved modern and futuristic buildings and structures;” he explained. “My father is an artist and drew contemporary and modern houses. Some of his favorite classes at Trinity were advanced art, personal finance, graphic design and Advanced Placement government and politics.

Participating in an internship at University Hospitals, Javon worked with the Project Manager and Coordinator for the Construction Facilities department. “I learned how to budget, review designs and blueprints, I sat in design and review meetings, visited construction sites and shadowed an architecture firm for a meeting;” said Javon. “I like to design things and use my creativity. I mainly use it to see things materialize through print, model or a structure;” Javon explains.

What are your future goals?

I am attending Kent State to study advertising with a minor in political science. I would like to be a Creative Director with an advertising agency and then become an entrepreneur. My Dad owns a car wash business and I hope to inherit it. My friends and I are starting a pen and pencil business. We are now just at the beginning stages.

What do you do in your spare time?

I volunteer at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank and at Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church’s food bank. I like to draw, hang out with family and friends. I also played basketball and ran track for Trinity.

How do you see yourself giving back to the community?

“In any way that I can. I try to inspire and motivate people be better. I encourage them to get involved, plan their future, get involved in church, say positive things through social media.”

What would you say to encourage other students to participate in ACE?

Get involved, especially if you have an idea about what you want to do as a career. This is where you get hands-on experience and work with professionals in the field. You are able to mimic professionals in the project simulations.

Javon Miller
ACE STUDENT ALUMNUS

School: Kent State University
Course of Study: Entrepreneurship
Expected Graduation Date: May 2021
ACE Class: Warrensville Heights 2018

ACE Mentoring Annual Calendar 2019

- April 24 & 30: Student Presentation Night
- May 9: ACE Scholarship Banquet
- August 3: AIA Sandfest
- August 14: ACE Golf Outing
- Mid-September: ACE Mentor Kick-Off and Start of Classes
- October 17: ACE Scholarship Luncheon Program
- December 1: ACE Family Day
THE ACE MENTORING LUNCHEON PROGRAM
The ACE Mentoring Luncheon Program features a prominent speaker from a local anchor institution. Recent speakers have included MetroHealth’s Vice President of Campus Transformation Walter Jones and Cynthia Leitson, Vice President of Capital, Construction and Facilities at Tri-C.

ACE SCHOLARSHIP NIGHT
The ACE Scholarship Banquet and End of Year Celebration is the highlight of the ACE year. It is a gathering of all of our ACE students, their parents, teachers and mentors as well as local industry professionals. The event features presentations from each of our ACE mentoring teams, in front of a crowd of over 500 people. It is capped off by our presentation of scholarships to graduating seniors.

ACE FAMILY DAY
ACE Family Day is an annual gathering of ACE students and their parents. The half-day event provides students exposure to careers in design and construction as well as exposure to ACE’s higher education partners. The event is capped off by a presentation to the students from a local civic leader.

AIA SANDFEST
Each year the Cleveland AIA Chapter hosts a Sandfest volleyball tournament and beach party. The funds raised are donated to the Cleveland ACE Mentoring Affiliate.

ACE GOLF OUTING
The ACE Golf Outing is our single largest fundraising event of the year. Typically taking place in August we have raised more than $200,000 in support of this outing.
ACE Cleveland’s Career Pathways Committee (CPC) is dedicated to helping current students and ACE alumni learn more about architecture, construction and engineering fields as well as careers within the skilled trades. CPC is dedicated to creating events and social platforms connecting industry leaders, ACE Mentors, students, and alumni together in formulating relationships to develop connections for the advancement of students within the A/C/E and trades fields. Building these relationships is critical for the support of ACE students, while giving them opportunities in their educational and career advancement.

High School Job Shadowing

Job shadowing experiences provide junior and senior high school students with opportunities to gain insight and enriching opportunities in the architecture, construction, engineering and trade fields.

Provides a snapshot of a day in the life of a professional by giving them the opportunity to observe and understand ACE Cleveland LinkedIn group creates an opportunity for ACE alumni to engage with other individuals in the industry and potentially create mentorship relationships.

Opportunities for networking at ACE Cleveland events, such as Presentation Night or participate in ACE partner organization events.

Internship Co-op Job

CPC helps link employers with college students and graduates for internship and job opportunities.

Collaboration with partner organizations for career fairs and networking events to connect employers and ACE alumni.

“ACE has helped me by paving the way for my success and opening up doors of opportunities as I explore the world of architecture and construction. It has also helped me in learning how to present myself and represent the companies that I stand for. The jobs and internships have helped me see and understand different concepts and ideas more clearly as I continue on my journey of always learning and improving.”

Imani Young is an ACE alumnus and scholarship recipient who recently graduated with a degree in architecture.
Thank You
TO OUR SPONSORS

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Independence Excavating
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Shook Construction

Andy Natale, Esq.
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Gorman-Lavelle

The Cleveland Marble Mosaic Co.
ARC
OCP Contractors
Rudd Equipment
AKA Construction Team
Cleveland Airport System

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