Top 10 Reasons to Sponsor ACE
Talking Points for Fund Raising Pitches

1. **ACE is One of a Kind.**
   No other program introduces high school students to the *full* process of designing and building a project and to *all* facets of the integrated design and construction industry.

2. **ACE Serves the Entire A-E-C Industry.**
   ACE was initiated by and is now sponsored and directed by the *entire* A-E-C industry to fulfill its needs. No other after-school or mentoring program has a comparable industry-wide focus or foundation.

3. **ACE Helps Meet Future A-E-C Workforce Needs.**
   - 7 in 10 of all alumni major in A-E-C in college or are already employed in the industry.
   - 23% of class of 2014 alumni (1,655) entered college declaring a major in a design field (architecture, landscape architecture, interior design). 46% expect to major in mechanical, civil, electrical and structural engineering. (Another 13% plan to pursue other engineering fields.) 4% plan to major in construction management.

4. **Fiscally, ACE is Very Efficient.**
   75% of the funds ACE raises for the national program go into program functions, according to financial audits for the past two years. A low 25% of the ACE budget covers administration and fund raising.

5. **ACE’s Success Has Earned National and Local Recognition.**
   - President Obama presented ACE with the nation’s highest award for mentoring – the 2010 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring.
   - The American Institute of Architects bestowed on ACE its 2014 Collaborative Achievement Award.
   - Every year ACE affiliates and their leaders win awards from local governments and community organizations.

6. **ACE Teaches Students A Broad Range of Industry-related Skills.**
   More than 80% of ACE students agree that they learned such skills and knowledge as green design, basic engineering principles, construction cost estimation, and computer-aided design.

7. **ACE Gives Students 21st-Century Work Life Skills Prized by Employers.**
   8 out of 10 alumni from the class of 2014 agree that as a result of ACE their leadership, oral and graphic communication, problem-solving, and teamwork skills improved.
8. **ACE Increases Diversity in A-E-C Fields**
   By a factor of 2 to 3, ACE sends a higher percentage of African-American, Hispanic, and Asian students to architecture and engineering programs compared to national rates of freshman enrollment in these fields.

9. **ACE Helps Students Go to College and Gives Them Confidence in College.**
   - Almost ¾s of students report ACE increased their motivation to attend college.
   - ACE has awarded more than $14 million in scholarships since its founding.
   - 7 out of 10 alumni say they felt ACE gave them an edge over their freshmen college classmates.

10. **ACE Enhances Students’ Attitudes Toward High School Studies.**
    Two-thirds of ACE alumni from the class of 2014 believe their ACE experience made their high school studies more meaningful and motivated them to study more.