Meet Ben Winschel, ACE Mentor Program Alumni and Current Architectural Designer at PDT Architects in Portland, ME

“...”

Our Program

ACE is an after-school program that gives you a hands-on introduction to architecture, construction management, engineering, and other construction careers.

ACE could be for you if you’re interested in designing and/or building just about everything around you - from schools, stadiums and concert halls to bridges, tunnels, shopping malls, parks, and more. The program matches you with ACE professionals, or mentors, who volunteer their time and energy. They show you where and how they work, the skills they use, and some of their projects under construction.

ACE in Maine (2008 - 2017)

- 9 years
- 28 active mentors
- 12 ACE firms involved
- 16 highschools
- 132 students
- 32 scholarships
- $17,500 total awarded

How it Works

You’re assigned to a team with other students. Mentors from participating companies will work with your team during the school year, meeting with you after school. You will learn how designers and builders think and work.

The Design Project

Your team, under your mentor’s guidance, will develop an actual engineering or architectural design project. You learn and apply important skills - such as problem solving and drawing to designing a real-life school, bridge, park, or whatever your team agrees on.

No Cost

There is no cost to students for participating in the program. It just requires some time. Time for learning how your mentors think and what they do, time working with your team on your project, time preparing for your future! The Design Project

Our Alumni

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“...”
The Benefits

01 Scholarships
Participation in the program and pursuit of an ACE related career are required for eligibility for a partial college scholarship through the ACE Scholarship Program, funded at the local level.

02 Job Opportunities
Meeting at a mentor’s place of business opens up opportunities for job shadowing, potential internships and more! By becoming familiar with your mentor’s workplace, you will be prepared for working in a professional work environment and beyond.

03 Career Guidance
Your exposure to many disciplines and specialties associated with the construction industry helps you decide which one - if any - is right for you.

04 Better Skills
This program helps you develop a variety of skills; drawing, writing, presenting, problem solving, research development, public speaking, and more!

Get involved by ...

1. Sharing your expertise
2. Joining our fundraising efforts
3. Becoming a part of our professional network

Contact us at - PortlandME@acementor.org

ACE Mentor Program
Portland, Maine

Inspiring the next generation of designers and builders.