March 16, 2018

Dear Industry Professional,

The ACE Mentor Program was founded in 1995 as an innovative way of attracting students into architecture, construction, and engineering professions. It is a non-profit organization whose mission is to engage, excite, and enlighten high school students to pursue careers in the integrated construction industry through mentoring; and to support their continued advancement in the industry through scholarships and grants.

The ACE Mentor Program is sponsored by the architectural, construction, and engineering community and relies on mentors and professionals from leading design and construction firms. These individuals devote countless off-duty hours and personal energy to foster an interest in math, science, and engineering through hands-on, real world applications. An information sheet regarding how the program works is attached to this letter and more information is available at www.acementor.org.

Our goal is to raise $20,000.00 in corporate sponsorship in 2018 for upcoming programs such as a summer program for 8th & 9th grade students at The Richland Two Institute of Innovation Center and other future programs. The support of firms like yours will make this program a success. Funds will be used in the future to award scholarships to help attending juniors and graduating seniors from Districts we hope to work with defray some of the costs of attending college, mentor orientation sessions, mailings, and program materials. Please review the levels and benefits of sponsorship on the attached form.

As a service to the community and to the industry professions, we kindly ask that your company donate generously to this program. With your donation, you are investing in the architects, contractors, engineers, and planners of tomorrow.

On behalf of the ACE Mentor Program of the Midlands and participating students from our Midlands community, we thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Michael Ritchie, AIA, LEED AP BD+C
Jumper Carter Sease Architects
(803) 791-1020
ACE Affiliate Mentor / Board Member
mritchie@jcsarchitects.com
## Sponsorship Package

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| **Platinum**      | $2,000       | - A "Scholarship" sponsored by your Company  
                  |              | - Sponsorship Plaque recognizing your status as a Platinum Sponsor  
                  |              | - Recognition as a Sponsor in media press releases and fundraisers  
                  |              | - Logo on Website  |
| **Gold**          | $1,000       | - An "Achievement Award" sponsored by your Company  
                  |              | - Sponsorship Plaque recognizing your status as a Gold Sponsor  
                  |              | - Recognition as a Sponsor in media press releases and fundraisers  
                  |              | - Logo on Website  |
| **Silver**        | $500         | - An "Achievement Award" sponsored by your Company  
                  |              | - Sponsorship Certificate  
                  |              | - Recognition as a Sponsor in media press releases and fundraisers  
                  |              | - Logo on Website  |
| **Bronze**        | $250         | - Sponsorship Certificate  
                  |              | - Recognition as a Sponsor in media press releases and fundraisers  
                  |              | - Name of your company on Website  |
| **Friends of ACE**| LESS THAN $250 | - Name of organization/individual on website  |

Please cut along dotted line and return this portion with your donation to the address shown below.

Please indicate amount:  
- [ ] $2,000  
- [ ] $1,000  
- [ ] $500  
- [ ] $250  
- [ ] Other Amount $ ___________ (Friends of ACE)

Please make check payable to: ACE Mentor Program of the Midlands  
LS3P Associates  
701-A Lady Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

We are a non-profit 501c (3) corporation.  
If you would like an IRS W-9 form or receipt sent to you please check this circle:  
- [ ]

*Please provide the following information:

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**About ACE:**
Will there be enough architects, construction managers and engineers to fill the industry's needs ten years from now? The ACE Mentor Program of America, Inc. is working hard to make sure there are. ACE is an acronym for architecture, construction, and engineering.

The program’s mission is to engage, excite and enlighten high school students to pursue careers in the integrated construction industry through mentoring; and to support their continued advancement in the industry through scholarships and grants.

ACE is a unique partnership among industry professionals — architects, interior designers, landscape architects, mechanical, structural, electrical, environmental and civil engineers, construction managers, college and university representatives, and other professionals from related corporations and professional organizations - who work together to attract young people to their professions.

Industry professionals volunteer to become mentors to high school students in order to introduce them to the professions and encourage them to pursue studies and careers in these fields. In return, the industry gets a much-needed boost of new talent.

**How ACE Works:**
ACE is made up of affiliates that serve youth within a certain city or region. Each affiliate has a board of directors, a local coordinator, and a number of teams. Teams are composed of 15-25 students and their industry mentors. Each team is set up to emulate an actual design team, with students guided through a mock design project by their architect, engineer, and construction management mentors. Several companies will be assigned to each team, each providing one or two mentors. Mentors guide the students as they work towards a final project, introducing them to the careers, industry vocabulary, and various roles companies play in the construction industry.

ACE runs for the duration of the school year. The teams meet for approximately 15 sessions, for about two hours after school. In addition to these team sessions, there are also all-team and field trips to construction sites.

Each team meets on a specific day of the week. The meetings are held either in schools or at the offices of the firms to give the students as authentic an experience as possible.

At the end of the year, all of the teams, in each location, gather for a final presentation night (which we urge corporations to attend and support). Here they present their designs to the other teams, their families, teachers, prospective mentors and the affiliate administrators so all can share in the students’ accomplishments.

The students' involvement in the program does not end here. Many remain active alumni of the program through the scholarships they receive, relationships they develop with their mentors, and future employment opportunities they exercise — such as internships and post-college jobs.

**Benefits to your company:**
Besides feeding the pipeline with the next generation of A/E industry workforce, your company will benefit from its involvement with ACE in the following ways:

1. *Enhancement of company image, within the industry and community*
2. *Networking opportunities for mentors and principals*
3. *Connects your firm to talented and motivated part-time help and potential future employees*
4. *Enhances young professionals presentation and communication skills*
5. *Creates an opportunity to “give back” to your community and your industry*
OUR MISSION

To ENGAGE, EXCITE and ENLIGHTEN high school students to pursue careers in architecture, engineering and construction through mentoring and to support their continued advancement in the industry.

• 75% of high school seniors completing ACE pursue A/E/C related majors in college or enter skilled trades programs.

• ACE alumni in their freshman and sophomore years of college OVERWHELMINGLY say ACE gave them an edge over their college peers.

• 85% of ACE students feel their ACE experience made their high school studies more meaningful.

ACE is your chance to SHARE YOUR STORY while helping students learn about different construction industry careers. It's also a great way to connect with other professionals who share your passions.
TOP 10 REASONS
TO SPONSOR THE ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

01
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 the entire spectrum of design and construction industry careers.

02
ACE SERVES THE ENTIRE A-E-C INDUSTRY
All A-E-C industry sectors sponsor and lead ACE for the benefit of the overall industry's workforce.

03
ACE HELPS MEET FUTURE WORKFORCE NEEDS
70% recent alumni major in A-E-C in college or are already employed in the industry.

04
ACE INCREASES DIVERSITY OF INDUSTRY WORKFORCE
The percentages of African-American and Hispanic ACE students entering college as architecture and engineering majors and of female engineer majors is double the national rates.

05
ACE TAPS THE POWER AND VALUE OF VOLUNTEERS
Almost 3,800 industry professionals annually volunteer as mentors and contribute in-kind assistance worth an estimated $17.3 million.

06
ACE SUCCESSES EARN NATIONAL RECOGNITION
ACE has won the nation's highest honor for mentoring (Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring) as well as American Institute of Architects awards.

07
ACE GIVES STUDENTS A BOOST IN COLLEGE
ACE has awarded more than $15 million in scholarships since its start, including $1.8 million last year. 84% recent alumni confirm ACE gave them an edge over their freshmen college classmates.

08
ACE TEACHES INDUSTRY-RELATED SKILLS
80+% of ACE students agree they learned green design, basic engineering principles, construction cost estimation, computer-aided design, and other industry-related knowledge.

09
ACE STRENGTHENS 21ST-CENTURY WORK LIFE SKILLS
95% recent alumni agree ACE improved their leadership, oral and graphic communication, problem-solving, and teamwork skills.

10
ACE ENHANCES HIGH SCHOOL STUDIES
80% students say ACE made their high school studies more meaningful and motivated them to study more.
ACE ADVANCES
ARCHITECTURE
WORKFORCE

Engage Excite Enlighten
96% of ACE high school seniors report that ACE strengthened their commitment to pursuing an architecture-related career.

83% of seniors interested in architecture entered NAAB-accredited architecture schools.

26% of all ACE high school seniors entered college planning to major in architecture, landscape architecture, interior design, or urban planning.

53% of recent ACE alumni are women.

58% of recent ACE alumni are minority.

Recent ACE alumni (2012-2016) most from under-represented groups majoring/working in a design-related field.

44% of African-American and Hispanic college freshmen planning an architecture major.

TEACHES VALUABLE SKILLS

% students strongly/moderately agreeing:

- Computer-aided design: 65%
- Model-making (actual or virtual): 73%
- Sustainable design and construction: 78%
- Knowledge of designing building or structure: 94%
I gained **real world experience** of what it's like to be an architect and work alongside people in **other professions**. Being in ACE also gave me valuable pieces for my **portfolio**.

- 2016 ACE alumna, Cornell University

**CONTINUES TO BENEFIT**

ACE PROGRAM ALUMNI

**AGREE ACE GAVE THEM**

- **88%** ALUMNI
  - Edge over their college peers
  - Professional network useful for career advancement
  - Pursue college majors or hold professional positions in architecture, landscape architecture, interior design, or urban planning.

**IMPACTS MENTORS**

PROFESSIONALLY + PERSONALLY

**ARCHITECTS**

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

& URBAN PLANNERS

**ARCHITECT MENTORS**

45% REGISTERED ARCHITECTS

48% FEMALE

**WORKFORCE SKILLS**

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION ABILITY IMPROVED 76%

SENSE OF CREATIVITY STRENGTHENED 79%

ORAL COMMUNICATION ABILITY IMPROVED 80%

TEAMWORK ABILITY IMPROVED 86%

**MENTOR BENEFITS**

% MENTORS AGREEING

49% LEADERSHIP ABILITIES STRENGTHENED

56% ABILITY TO EXPLAIN TECHNICAL CONCEPTS IMPROVED

63% SATISFACTION RECRUITING NEXT A-E-C GENERATION

73% PROFESSIONAL NETWORK EXTENDED

75% PLEASURE SHARING MY PASSION FOR THE INDUSTRY
ACE is an incredible program that strengthens connections among professionals, empowers new students to take on amazing challenges, and promotes collaboration within our diverse fields.

- Landscape architect mentor, Denver, CO

ACE ADVANCES ARCHITECTURE WORKFORCE

By attracting the next generation of architects, landscape architects, interior designers, and urban planners, ACE plays a crucial role in addressing the design and construction industry’s workforce needs.

ACE has ignited my passion for architecture. Thanks to ACE, I have developed an appreciation of how architects work. The help I have received from my mentors is irreplaceable.

- Student, Raleigh, NC

THE ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

ACE’s 70 affiliates operate in 37 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Approximately 3,600 mentors annually engage 9,000 students from 1,000 schools in a free, 15-session afterschool program. Two-thirds of students are from minority and underserved populations. More than one-third are female. Since its start in 1994, ACE has awarded $15M+ in scholarships.

www.acementor.org

DATA SOURCES

This report’s data are drawn from three large-scale surveys (2017) of students, alumni (classes of 2012-16) and mentors. The surveys’ margins of error range from 1.5% to 2.2%. The statistic about national freshmen studying architecture is from Higher Education Research Institute, UCLA, 2016 CIRP Freshman Survey.
ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

ACE EXPANDS ENGINEERING WORKFORCE

Engage Excite Enlighten
96% SENIORS INTERESTED IN ENGINEERING
REPORT ACE STRENGTHENED THEIR COMMITMENT TO THIS CAREER OR PERSUADED THEM TO PURSUE IT

40% ACE HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ENTER COLLEGE PLANNING AN ENGINEERING MAJOR RELATED TO CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

30% WOMEN
55% MINORITY

RECENT ACE ALUMNI (2012-2016)
MAJORING/WORKING IN CONSTRUCTION-RELATED ENGINEERING FIELDS

37% 19%
NATIONWIDE 2016 ACE 2017
AFRICAN-AMERICAN + HISPANIC

22% 33%
NATIONWIDE 2016 ACE 2017
WOMEN

COLLEGE FRESHMEN PLANNING AN ENGINEERING MAJOR

30% 55%
NATIONWIDE 2016 ACE 2017

TEACHES VALUABLE SKILLS % STUDENTS STRONGLY / MODERATELY AGREEING

ENGINEERING DESIGN SKILLS

COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN 65%
BASIC ENGINEERING PRINCIPLES 70%
MECH., ELEC., PLUMB. INFRASTRUCTURE 75%
KNOWLEDGE OF DESIGNING BUILDING OR STRUCTURE 92%
ACE showed me the lack of diversity for women and minorities in engineering, but my involvement in the program also affirmed my abilities to transcend these barriers.

— 2015 ACE alumna, Carnegie Mellon University
ACE helped me develop people skills, leadership skills, and allowed me to gain hands-on experience in engineering fields.

-- Student, Dallas, TX

ACE EXPANDS ENGINEERING WORKFORCE

BY ATTRACTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CIVIL, STRUCTURAL, MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERS, ACE PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN ADDRESSING THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY’S WORKFORCE NEEDS.

I’ve learned of the genuine interest of the younger generation in engineering and have been inspired to keep spreading the word that engineering is fruitful and worthwhile.

- Civil Engineer Mentor, New York City

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