

## OUTSTANDING MENTOR

An outstanding mentor inspires and guides their team of students with genuine expertise and knowledge regarding the project of the year, leading them to opportunities in the AEC career fields. They listen well, provide constructive feedback, share valuable knowledge, open opportunities, and lead by example while fostering growth and confidence in those they mentor.

### How is the Outstanding Mentor Chosen?

Each year, students participating in the ACE Mentor Omaha program have the opportunity to nominate a mentor who has significantly impacted their education through exceptional instruction and guidance. Students are encouraged to write a nomination letter highlighting their mentor's contributions. A selection team reviews these nominations to identify ACE Omaha's outstanding mentor of the year, who will then be awarded a scholarship in their name to be presented to a senior at the end-of-year presentation. Furthermore, the nominated mentor is considered for the title of [Outstanding Mentor of the Year](#), which is ultimately determined by a panel that evaluates all nominated mentors.

### ACE MENTOR OMAHA'S OUTSTANDING MENTORS

- 2020 [David Penka](#), DLR Group
- 2021 David Penka, DLR Group
- 2022 [Rob Whorley](#), Performance Engineering
- 2023 [Michael Sharp](#), RDG Planning & Design
- 2024 Kene Okigbo, RDG Planning & Design: [National Outstanding Mentor](#)
- 2025 [Phuong Nguyen](#), BVH Architects