

ACE Mentor News

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Winter 2009

What is ACE Mentoring

The program's mission is to enlighten and increase the awareness of high school students to career opportunities in architecture, construction and engineering and related areas of the design and construction industry through mentoring; and to provide scholarship opportunities for students in an inclusive manner reflective of the diverse school population.

ACE is a unique partnership among industry professionals — architects, interior designers, engineers, construction managers, contractors and building trades personnel, 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.

ACE Pittsburgh 2008/09



High school students involved with the ACE Pittsburgh chapter are now in full swing and are benefiting from a nationwide program designed to introduce them to the wide range of career opportunities open to young people in architecture, construction, engineering, and related areas of the building design and construction industry.

This year's program consists of two teams conducted on two parallel program tracks. Team #1 consists of returning schools Northgate High School and Quaker Valley High School while Team #2 is a group of pre-engineering students from Alderdice High School.

Discipline specific sessions that are being conducted include Architecture, Civil Engineering, Mechanical/Electrical/Plumbing Engineering, Structural Engineering and Construction Management/Estimating.

Mentors for this year's sessions include representatives from Advantus Engineers, Astorino, Atlantic Engineering Services, Burt Hill, Chatham University, Civil and Environmental Consultants, DMJM Harris, Loftus Engineers, Oxford Development Company, PJ Dick Incorporated and Turner Construction. *For information on how to get involved as a mentor or a host firm please contact us at info@acepittsburgh.org.*



ACE Board

ACE Pittsburgh is proud to announce the first board of directors for the newly formed affiliate of the ACE Mentor Program of America. The following individuals make up this group:

Michael Barnard, PE – Chair
Oxford Development Company
Brett Pitcairn – Vice Chair
PJ Dick Incorporated
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CJL Engineering



Career Directions for Students in
Architecture, Construction and Engineering

What's Been Happening

We began the 2008/09 school year with an introductory presentation on why we build buildings. The session was led by Andrew Lang, RA, Director of Development Services with Oxford Development Company. This year's project once again started with the project site located at the corner of Wood Street and 1st Avenue with the rest left up to the teams. At bi-weekly meetings, student teams work directly with professionals from leading area firms, who volunteer their time to mentor the teams as they design hypothetical projects, and visit architectural, engineering and construction offices. Recent events were hosted by the Green Building Alliance (Sustainability / LEED), DMJM Harris (Structural Engineering) and P.J. Dick (Construction Management / Estimating). Field trips and special activities also enhance the ACE experience.



A visit on January 7th to the Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers (BAC) Local #9 PA Training Center, sponsored by the International Masonry Institute, offered students hands-on exposure to the trowel trades. Ed Frieze (Apprenticeship Coordinator) and Rich King (Head Instruction) of the BAC Local 9 PA along with four (4) apprentice volunteers from Cost Company, MARSA, Inc., and MI Friday were on hand to talk with 25 ACE students about careers in the trowel trades and to assist them with a hands-on experience in bricklaying.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events for students will include a session on Landscape Architecture with Chatham University and another "Trades" hands-on event as well as a project site visit to tour the "Bore to the Shore" project which will link the Golden Triangle and the North Shore. Additionally the ACE Pittsburgh Chapter will be hosting a "Career Night" for students and their parents on Thursday, March 12th from 3:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. This event will be held at Point Park University's Lawrence Hall lobby. Participating universities and trade organizations include University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania State University, Carnegie Mellon University, Robert Morris University and Point Park University, the International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 9 PA, International Union of Operating Engineers and the Master Builders Association.

ACE Pittsburgh Kicks off 2008/09 Fundraising Program

In August the Board initiated the first fundraising campaign for ACE Pittsburgh. The program has five established levels of giving for potential donors. Funds donated by local firms will be used to conduct sessions, provide transportation for students and ultimately provide scholarships for deserving students. For information on how to contribute please contact a board member or send us an email at info@acepittsburgh.org.

ACE Pittsburgh Mentor Firms

- Advantus Engineers, LLC
- Astorino
- Atlantic Engineering Services
- Burt Hill
- Chatham University
- Civil & Environmental Consultants
- DMJM Harris
- Loftus Engineers
- Oxford Development Company
- PJ Dick Incorporated
- Turner Construction

ACE Pittsburgh Sponsors

We would like to thank the following firms or individuals who have contributed to ACE Pittsburgh as of February 1, 2009:

- **Platinum** (\$2,500+)
 - PJ Dick Incorporated
- **Gold** (\$1,500 - \$2,499)
- **Silver** (\$500 - \$1,499)
 - DMJM Harris
 - Jendoco Construction
- **Bronze** (\$100 - \$499)
 - AIG
 - Carol Harris Staffing
 - Johnson Controls, Inc.
 - Miller Electric Company
 - Renaissance 3 Architects, Inc.
 - Wayne Crouse, Inc.

