



## Mentor Program

### GREATER METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AREA AFFILIATE

Career directions for students in architecture, construction and engineering

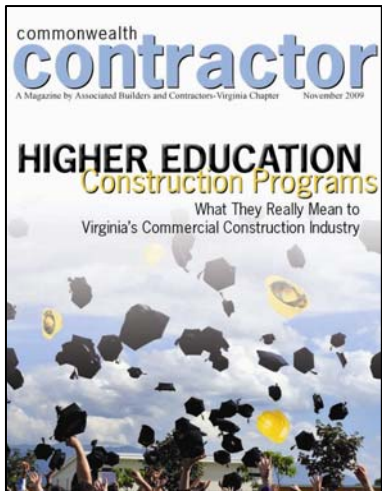
[www.acementor.org](http://www.acementor.org)

Volume 2, Issue 1, Fall 2009

## Watch for ACE DC in the News!

The November edition of ABC Virginia’s magazine, *Commonwealth Contractor*, is focusing on higher education-oriented construction programs.

Watch out for ACE DC in this November’s edition, which will be an article describing the ACE mentoring program, what it means to the commercial construction industry, and how it benefits our industry.



### FALL 2009 CALENDAR

#### October

- Student/Mentor Online Registrations begin
- ACE Mentor Teams start
- Teams meet bi-weekly up to Winter, with holiday vacations in December

#### November

- Tentative – Winter Fundraiser Planning (submit ideas to Trisha Grant at [tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org](mailto:tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org))
- Mentor Appreciation Event/Fall Reception



### SAVE THE DATE

ACE Mentor Training Session

Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009  
from 6-8 PM at  
Limbach Company LLC  
10110 Senate Drive  
Lanham, MD 20706

Please RSVP to [washingtondc@acementor.org](mailto:washingtondc@acementor.org)

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## A Letter from the President

The 2009-2010 (our tenth year) will be an exciting year for the ACE DC Mentor Affiliate.

We are delighted to welcome our new Executive Director, Ms. Trisha Grant, to manage and direct our activities. Please join me in welcoming her and supporting our ever expanding program.

We are most grateful to McKissack and McKissack, as our premier sponsor, in providing the necessary office space and support for Trisha in their DC office.

As you will see in our newsletter, we are continuing to expand our High School Mentor teams – with three new schools, lots of new students and quite a few new mentors. Additional schools are also inquiring but our growth is limited to the number of mentors, sponsors and resources that we can recruit.

Also, you will see that Trisha has been instrumental in developing new partnerships with other industry organizations and developing the latest communication technology for all of us.

Enjoy our newsletter! Comments and feedback are invited; and don't hesitate to share this newsletter with your friends, colleagues and industry associates.

Very truly yours,



**Chris Reseigh, P.E.**  
**President, ACE DC**  
**Affiliate**

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## A Note from the Executive Director

Dear Supporters of ACE,

Welcome to our 2009-2010 ACE Mentor Program year!

Thank you for your time, attention and participation in a variety of capacities with ACE. As we proceed forward with this new academic year, I look forward to our continued efforts in enhancing the lives and careers of our young people through our shared enthusiasm for the built industry.

Regards,



**Trisha M. Grant, LEED AP**  
**Executive Director, ACE DC Affiliate**



*Mayor Fenty is ACE Fan!*

*Washington, DC Mayor*  
*Adrian Fenty is pictured here*  
*with ACE DC Executive*  
*Director Trisha Grant*

## 2009 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

*Where are they now? What are they doing?*

The ninth annual ACE Mentoring Scholarship Breakfast last spring – hosted by Paul Malandrino of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority – awarded twelve (12) students with 2-year scholarships of \$4,000 each.

**Jacob Bennett:** Landscape Architecture – West Virginia University

**Chris Bishop:** Architecture – Hampton University

**Christian Chance:** Construction Management – Prince George’s Community College

**Daniel Delorme:** Mechanical Engineering – Michigan State

**Josue Fernandez:** Engineering – Penn State

**Danny Gramajo:** Architecture – Montgomery County Community College

**Bianca Jackson:** Architecture – Hampton University

**Karla Osorio:** Architecture – Montgomery County Community College

**Nina Randorf:** Nuclear Engineering – University of Michigan

**Jason Singh:** Civil Engineering – University of Maryland

Read about  
**Nina Randorf’s**  
adventures in Korea  
– “*The Benefits of  
Taking a Gap Year*” –  
at ACE DC  
Affiliate’s page on  
[www.acementor.org](http://www.acementor.org)

Thank you again to our sponsors, who made this event and these scholarship awards possible.

- Atlantic Contracting
- Belstar
- Lane Construction
- McGraw Hill Construction
- Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
- Parsons Transportation
- PB Americas
- Sigal Construction
- Thomas J. Paci
- Turner Construction (two scholarships)



*“The ACE program gave me so many opportunities that I would have never thought I would experience. I believe that because of the ACE program I am now a more professional person, leader, and role model to my friends and family.”*

**Christian Chance – ACE Booker T. Washington Team**

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## MCKISSACK & MCKISSACK: NEW PREMIER SPONSOR

We are proud to introduce a new tier of sponsorship, as well as our very first sponsor at this level – McKissack & McKissack of Washington, Inc. (McKissack & McKissack) The firm has donated office space and basic office resources for the 2009-2010 program year.



***Thank you McKissack & McKissack!***

### *About the Premier Sponsor:*

McKissack & McKissack is a woman/minority-owned firm specializing in architecture & interiors, program & construction management, planning & facilities management, environmental engineering and transportation. Deryl McKissack, PE, PMP, founded the company in 1990 in Washington, DC. In 2002, she expanded into the Chicago market and now has offices in Los Angeles, Baltimore, Miami, Atlanta and Orlando. The firm employs 130 professionals. McKissack & McKissack manages \$15 billion in construction and is ranked by *Engineering News Record* as one of the top 100 Construction Management For-Fee firms in the United States and by the *Washington Business Journal* as one of the top 20 Environmental Consultant firms in the metropolitan area.

McKissack & McKissack is an outgrowth of the oldest minority-owned architecture/engineering firm in the nation. Its roots go back to before the Civil War, when Moses McKissack, a slave in Tennessee, learned the trade of building under the tutelage of his owner, one of America's first contractors. Through his talent, fortitude and courage, he became a master builder and earned his freedom. Deryl McKissack, PE, PMP is the fifth generation of the McKissack family to carry on the building tradition. Her passion for excellence has defined the culture of McKissack & McKissack. Along with her management team, she has created a firm that is customer focused, financially strong and prepared to build on its impressive record of professional triumphs and community service.

McKissack & McKissack's diversity of services allows us to successfully manage our clients' projects from conception through completion, whether the project is new construction, renovation, reconstruction, environmental design or transportation. Additionally, our services are provided to a diverse and demanding client base, including federal, state and local governments, developers, corporations, healthcare institutions, colleges and universities, K-12 schools and municipal entities. McKissack & McKissack is proud of its ability to take on difficult and complex assignments that require the skills of many disciplines. The work of our talented and dedicated staff may be seen in many notable projects, such as:

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial**—*design/build construction*
- **Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson Memorials**—*renovation*
- **National Institutes of Health**—*various contracts*
- **Main U.S. Treasury Building**—*renovation*
- **District of Columbia Public Schools**—*various contracts*
- **Washington Nationals Major League Baseball Stadium**—*new construction*
- **O'Hare International Airport Expansion**—*modernization*
- **Dulles Corridor Metrorail**—*new construction*
- **District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan**—*new construction*
- **Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Bi-County Water Supply Main**—*new construction*
- **Chicago Housing Authority-wide Construction Management**—*new construction and renovation*
- **Hilton Baltimore Convention Center Hotel**—*new construction*
- **District of Columbia Consolidated Forensic Laboratory**—*new construction*

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## 2009 Mentor Trainings A SUCCESS!

Our three mentor trainings this past September were again a success, drawing approximately fifty (50) professionals.

Thank you to training coordinator and Board member Thomas James, as well as the organizations who sponsored space, resources and refreshments:

- **General Services Administration** (DC)
- **Jacobs Engineering Group** (VA)
- **Clark Construction** (MD)

The two-hour, evening mentor training sessions are truly pivotal to ensuring the success of the year's program. These sessions serve as an orientation for new mentors, as well as a refresher course for past mentors. Additionally, the sessions give our veteran mentors a chance to actively share real-life examples with the entire group, which is especially beneficial for our new or less experienced mentors.

There will be a final mentor training session on **Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009** from **6-8pm**, hosted by Limbach Company LLC. Please RSVP to [washingtondc@acementor.org](mailto:washingtondc@acementor.org).

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## NEW 2009 Mentor Teams

The 2009-2010 program year is starting out strong, having added three additional public high schools to the program:

**H.D. Woodson** – Washington, DC

Lead Mentor: Tyrone Anderson, General Services Administration

Lead Patron: Turner Construction, as arranged by Jodi Paci

**Freedom High School** – Woodbridge, VA

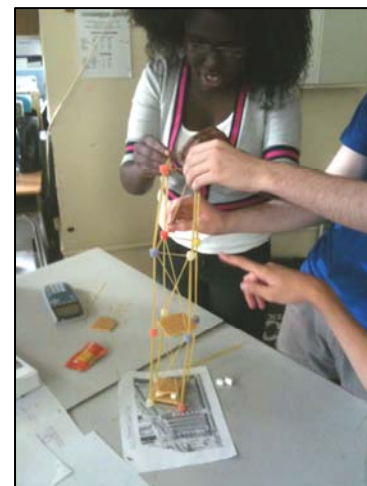
Lead Mentor: Jay Ryba, Turner Construction

Lead Patron: Turner Construction, as arranged by Jay Ryba

**Herndon High School** – Herndon, VA

Lead Mentors: Kassinda Williams and Don Miller, Holder Construction

Lead Patron: Holder Construction, as arranged by Kassinda Williams



*ACE Students create the infamous spaghetti-and-gumdrops tower during a mentoring session.*

*Teams to Come* – due to popular request, we are investigating the possibility of teams at Magruder, McNamara and TC Williams High Schools. If you are interested in being a part of these teams, contact Trisha Grant at [tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org](mailto:tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org).

## 2009 – 2010 MOBILIZED ACE MENTOR TEAMS

The ACE Mentor Program of the Greater Washington Area, Inc. (ACE DC) starts this 2009-2010 school year with a total of eighteen (18) high school teams and over two hundred sixty (260) registered students!

	SCHOOL	SPONSOR	LEAD Mentor	Co-LEAD Mentor	TEAM Mentors
<b>Arlington Co.</b>	Arlington Career Center		Steve Nicklas	n/a	Steve Feight, Patrick Gallagher, Ryan Sokoloski, Daniel Kwon, Roberto Niemiec
<b>District of Columbia PS</b>	Bell Multicultural Senior High School		Gunnar Lucko	n/a	Kim Schiffgens, Bill Sawicki, Dan Noonan; Lynn Bechthold, Cary Simmons, Ben Cohen
	Booker T. Washington	<b>GSA</b>	Dawit Zena	Winston Wright	Gaftie Marlow, Lisa Chong, Anthony Stewart
	Cardozo Senior High School		John Mullin	n/a	TBD - 2 or 3 people from Hines (Arch, Eng, Contractor) plus INSCAPE
	Coolidge Senior High School		Julee R. Thomas	n/a	John Samson; Lisa Crawford
	HD Woodson	<b>TCCO</b>	Tyrone Anderson	Jodi Paci	Mark Banks, Tiffany Brown, Matt Hennessy, Matthew Keen, L. Green
<b>Fairfax Co. PS</b>	Woodrow Wilson Senior High School		Chris McCune	James Russell	Vinod Aranha, <i>Clarence Pearson, Rodney Moulden</i>
	Chantilly Academy		Marcy Loy	John Gould	Erik Odinski, Mark Cichocki, Joe Cuti, Allan Sylvester
	Hayfield High School		Lakshmi Nalluri	Mike O'Neal	Alan Coleman; plus other guest mentors from HDR
	Herndon High School	<b>Holder</b>	Kassinda Williams	Don Miller	Stephanie Gepford, Carey Steckler, Kim Rambaum, Aaron Martens, Monjia Belizaire, Peter Taylor, Hayes Todd, Scott Alexander, Chris Brogdon
	Marshall High School	<b>TCCO</b>	Mark McKenna	n/a	Joyce Hallinan, Christi McDonald, Scott Tracy-Inglis
	Woodson High School		Ryan Seymore	n/a	Jay Kim, Dan Reynolds, Joy Sadhu, Diwakar Sharma, Chris Shoemaker, Emily Prince, Elizabeth Paradine, Byron Willis
	Robert E. Lee High School	<b>PB</b>	Chris Reseigh	Daniel Wungko	Sarah Ice, Austin Ringwood, Yoseph Wondimu
	<b>Montgomery Co. PS</b>	Wheaton High School	<b>TCCO</b>	Oswaldo Ortega	Chris Hillegas
<b>Prince George's Co. PS</b>	Crossland High School		Mike Dulaney	n/a	Thad Waters
	Eleanor Roosevelt High School		SL Hopkins	George Blake	<i>Gurmeet Gahunia</i> , Christian Nieves, DeShawn Alexander, Matt Ames, Nicole McKenzie
	Suitland High School		Nadiyah Vass	Calvin Austin	
<b>Prince William Co. PS</b>	Freedom High School		Jay Ryba	n/a	Drew Kelleher

## ACE TEAM PHOTOS: WOODROW WILSON HIGH SCHOOL



*The Woodrow Wilson High School ACE mentor team at presentation night. Two team members (Caroline Hackett and Ben Cohen) were accepted into Dartmouth and Harvard, respectively.*

*Woodrow Wilson High School ACE students and mentors visit U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Platinum certified headquarters!*



*Woodrow Wilson High School ACE team's presentation on the redesign of Wilson's Cafeteria*

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## OUTREACH INITIATIVES

ACE DC Executive Leadership is currently in discussions for strategic alliances with other associations that share a passion for the built industry and progressing its posterity. We look forward to a lasting relationship with:

**Construction Management Association of America (CMAA)** – National Capital Chapter  
<http://www.cmaancc.com/default.aspx>

The Mission of CMAA is "to promote and enhance leadership, professionalism, and excellence in managing the development and construction of projects and programs." Membership in CMAA includes more than 3,000 firms and individuals – owners, engineers, architects, contractors, educators, students...everyone with a stake in the construction industry's success.

**National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)**  
– Pre-College Initiative  
Greater Metropolitan Region  
<http://pci.nsbe.org/default.asp>

The Pre-College Initiative (PCI) Program is designed to stimulate the interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields. The goal is to encourage students in grades K–12 to attend college and pursue technical degrees.

**National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA)** – DC Chapter  
<http://dcnoma.noma.net/>

DCNOMA is an organization comprised of architects, designers, preservationists, students, teachers and concerned individuals who believe in using the built environment as a medium for change and inspiration. Its mission is to serve and promote the interests of underrepresented groups with the design profession and community at large.

**Society of American Military Engineers (SAME)** – DC Post

[http://www.samedcpost.org/about\\_dcpost.html](http://www.samedcpost.org/about_dcpost.html)

With over 1,400 members, that include over 140 sustaining member companies and public agencies, the Washington DC Post is the largest SAME post (chapter) in the Society. The Washington DC Post draws on the overabundance of available professional development and networking resources in the area. These resources include the many federal, state and local agencies; private sector's technical and innovative expertise; and the small business initiatives that are an important part of our architecture, engineering, and construction and other related industries.

**American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)**  
– Washington, DC Chapter

[www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org)

Founded in 1852, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) represents more than 147,000 members of the civil engineering profession worldwide, and is America's oldest national engineering society. ASCE's vision is to position engineers as global leaders building a better quality of life.

ACE DC looks forward to working with the **American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)** for the 2010 Conference here in Washington, DC in September 2010. ASLA will donate a vendor space for ACE DC; as well as work on a Legacy Project. This project, made possible from product donations and support from conference vendors, will be in conjunction with ACE high school teams, mentors, and local area ASLA chapters.



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## ACE DC Students selected to attend University of Maryland School of Architecture Young Scholars Summer Program

“The program really gave me strong insight into the architecture industry; and truly prepared me for my future. I enjoyed every aspect of it, and I’ve learned just how much of a productive student I could be. This program also taught me different ways to manage the different components of the college life – including work loads, time management, and even stress. Within three weeks, I was instructed to design, model, and present three different areas of design as well as technique. The first week, I created space in an open area using figural voids. During the second week I designed an art studio, using figural solids. For the third week I designed a library combining both figural voids and figural solids. These projects helped me grasp the knowledge of creating and applying space. Now I’ll be honest, these three weeks were definitely not the easiest of my life. There was a lot of hard work, focus, and dedication needed to successfully complete the program. Extended hours of work, long nights with nothing but a ruler and pencil at my grasps, and complicated assignments came to me as a shock and wake-up call. However, I knew that the projects we were given are nothing compared to what kind of projects I would have to pursue in the industry. So for me, giving up wasn’t and will never be an option. My future goals and aspirations kept me going strong and motivated me to persevere. Through every obstacle comes success, and this program taught me that. With this experience, I feel that I am now more than ready for college; and to begin my journey to become the next BILLION DOLLAR ARCHITECT!”

– **Travon Greene** (*Crossland*)



*Travon Greene hard at work at UMD’s summer program*

“My experience was very beneficial to my career aspirations in architecture. I had the opportunity to study architecture and learn from graduating University of Maryland students and the assistant professor Mr. Ambrose. There were about 60 of us students divided into groups of eight. We learned the ideas and concepts of architecture through form, space, and order. The program was intense and challenged our creativity and problem solving abilities. Everyday began with a lecture, followed by studio time and sketchbook sessions. For the three weeks we were there we had three projects that we worked on throughout the week. We also took fieldtrips to DC and Baltimore, where we visited an architecture agency and learned about the many careers in the architecture and engineering profession. My UMD experience was beneficial because it gave me insight into my future in architecture. I would recommend it to other ACE students because it’s a great experience and can help you decide whether a future in architecture is for you.”

– **Tevin Cole** (*Suitland*)

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## **We Thank All Those Who Support the ACE DC!**

**PREMIER SPONSOR**  
McKissack & McKissack

**PENTHOUSE CLUB:**  
Turner Construction Company

**TOP FLOOR CLUB:**  
Christopher E. Reseigh  
Parsons Brinckerhoff Americas  
The Lane Construction Corporation

**MEZZANINE CLUB:**  
Atlantic Contracting  
McGraw-Hill Construction

**LOBBY CLUB:**

Belstar Inc.	Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
Gilbane Building Company	Parsons Transportation Group
Hill International Inc.	Sumitomo Corporation
McDonough Bolyard Peck	

**ADDITIONAL SUPPORTERS:**  
AECOM  
AIA  
Ames and Gough  
Ashton Design  
International Masonry Institute  
Parsons Management Consultants  
US Green Building Council  
Shapiro and Duncan  
Gauthier Alvarado and Associates  
General Services Administration  
Tompkins Builders  
Syska and Hennessy  
Shapiro Litschitz and Schrom  
Vista Contracting  
Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker  
Skidmore Owings and Merrill

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## ACE DC Board of Directors

*ACE DC acknowledges and thanks its Board members, industry leaders who have all contributed to our program with their skills, experience, dedication and support:*

**Anthony Dean**, Prince George's County Public Schools

**Ben Latigo**, University of the District of Columbia

**Cathie Kempf**, Project Management

**Chris Reseigh**, Parsons Brinckerhoff

**Christian Jahrling**, Turner Construction Company

**Christine Merdon**, McKissack & McKissack

**Edmund Worthy**, (Retired) National Building Museum

**Enor Williams**, Delon Hampton

**Gregory E. Stinner**, International Masonry Institute

**John Gudgel**, McGraw Hill

**John Spolidis**, Syska Hennessy Group

**Kenneth Vogel**, Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority

**Kim Roddis**, George Washington University

**Len Rattigan**, Jacobs Engineering

**Lou Couture**, URS Corp

**Mark Drury**, Shapiro and Duncan

**Mark Luria**, Gilbane Building Company

**Osmund Belcher**, Belstar Inc.

**Randall Ott**, Catholic University of America

**Robert Kight**, PG County Public Schools

**Robert Wallace**, Wilson Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker, LLP

**Scott Damiecki**, Watkins, Meegan, Drury & Company, LLC

**Scott Kratz**, National Buildings Museum

**Thomas James**, GSA, Public Building Service

***New Members - Our Board of Directors has now expanded to include:***

**David Thompson**, DCPS Office of Career and Technical Education

**Diane Hartley**, Clark Construction

**John Fetty**, Marriott International

**Lisa Jennings**, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

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## International Masonry Institute Hosts Mentor Appreciation Night

Greg Stinner hosted the 2008-2009 ACE mentors to a barbecue and tour of the International Masonry Institute (IMI) training center headquarters in Bowie, Maryland. Approximately 20 mentors attended and were most impressed with the facilities and the program that the IMI conducts for masons from all over the country. We extend our thanks to Greg and Hazel Bradford for organizing this event! We all enjoyed ourselves and learned a lot more about all types of masonry, bricklaying and specialty stone construction.



*Pictured Top: Nicole McKenzie,  
Gunnar Lucko and Mark Banks  
Pictured Right: '08-09 Group Photo  
Pictured Bottom: SL Hopkins and  
Greg Stinner*

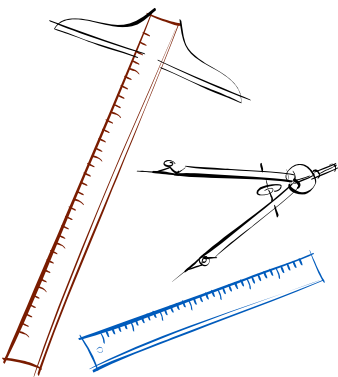




Join the ACE Mentor Program of American national **LinkedIn** page.

Get connected to fellow mentors and other industry professionals here:

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2182867>



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*In general, the main identifying goals of the ACE DC Affiliate are:*

- Mentors (industry professionals, tradesmen, etc.) for the school year
- Guest Speakers/Mentors (a presentation periodically to students)
- Construction/Site Tours of projects
- Donations/Grant opportunities

If you know of any opportunities, or other items of interest to ACE DC, please feel free to contact Trisha Grant at [tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org](mailto:tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org).