**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.

Founded in 1994, the ACE Mentor Program of America (ACE) is a free, award-winning, afterschool program designed to attract high school students into pursuing careers in the Architecture, Construction and Engineering industry, including skilled trades. ACE is a federation of more than 70 affiliates (chapters), operating in 37 states and largely based in metropolitan areas, which deliver the program. A national office coordinates and assists affiliates.

**Overview**
- Over 10,000 students participate annually, drawn from approximately 1,100 high schools.
- The majority of ACE students (69%) are minority, and one-third female.
- One-quarter of ACE seniors entering college are first generation students.
- More than 4,100 volunteer industry professionals mentor student teams through a 35-hour-long simulation of designing and constructing a project.
- Approximately $2.5 million in scholarships are awarded annually to high school seniors and alumni studying to pursue industry-related careers.
- ACE also offers students summer camp and internship opportunities.

**National Design and Construction Competition**
The 2020 CIRT National Design & Construction Competition invites ACE Mentor Affiliate teams (student and mentors) from across the country to design solutions for one of three challenges: water resource management, a national pavilion, and a gastronomic center. The competition is maintained, coordinated and juried by the Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT), in coordination with ACE Mentor National and the Chicago Architecture Center. The 2020 theme celebrates the innovations and contributions the design and construction community make to the quality of American life, while understanding the issues and challenges the industry faces to deliver on this legacy.

**Mentors**
There is no substitute for experience — the ACE Mentor Program is driven by the committed and enthusiastic participation of volunteer mentors who are practicing professionals in their respective fields. ACE offers high school students the best opportunities because ACE offers the best industry mentors.

**For More Information**
To engage with ACE Mentoring, please contact:
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**About the K-12 STEM Community of Interest**
The mission of the K-12 STEM Outreach Committee is to support our diverse Posts by providing information and guidance on STEM education and outreach activities that allow participants to be exposed to concepts, competencies, and careers in engineering from elementary school to middle school to high school.

To join the K-12 STEM Community of Interest, log into your member account and scroll down the dashboard to the Communities of Interest section.