

## ACE Mentor Program of Greater Boston to host 11th Annual Networking Fundraiser - June 12th

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Boston, MA ACE Mentor Program of Greater Boston, the free after-school program run by award-winning design and construction professionals with the goal of encouraging high school students to pursue careers in the architecture, construction and engineering industries, is hosting its annual fundraiser, on Wednesday, June 12th, from 6:00–9:00 PM at Artists for Humanity.

The annual event raises critical funds for scholarships and plays a vital role in supporting the core programming costs of their after-school flagship program, the free, collaborative after-school experience that brings together over 170 students from 35+ high schools across the greater Boston region. ACE's annual fundraiser will continue to grow impact by directly aligning with ACE's mission to engage, excite, and enlighten students to pursue careers through mentoring and continued support for their advancement into the industry.

The 2024–2025 program year marked a major milestone for ACE Boston, the organization awarded an impressive \$264,000 in scholarships to 27 seniors during the March Student Showcase.

This is all made possible by the continued support of industry partners and individual donors who believe in ACE's mission to inspire and prepare the next generation of designers, builders, and engineers. "Sponsoring ACE allows companies to directly connect with and support the next wave of talent entering our industries," said Kristen Hurley, ACE Mentor Program executive director. "We are beyond thankful to have supporters in the space that provide access to the education and resources students need to succeed in meaningful careers."

ACE operates seven student teams each year, meeting weekly after school under the guidance of over 125 dedicated industry mentors. These mentors lead students through hands-on, interdisciplinary design projects that reflect real-world challenges in architecture, construction, and engineering. The program also features opportunities to network with top industry professionals, enjoy a sit-down dinner, participate in a live auction and raffle, and hear directly from students whose lives have been transformed by their ACE experience.

ACE Boston's strength lies in its volunteer-driven model, engaging over 125 mentors from more than 50 firms across Greater Boston each year. These dedicated professionals guide a diverse group of students reflecting the broad racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic makeup of the region through capstone design projects and offer insight through special events like Trades Day, Architecture Evening, Engineering Evening, and Construction Management Evening. Mentors play a critical role

in demystifying the industry and helping students explore career paths they may never have otherwise considered.

"At Gilbane, we believe in investing in the next generation of builders, engineers, and architects. Supporting the ACE Mentor Program of Greater Boston through scholarship funding allows us to help students take the next step toward fulfilling careers in the build industries. These students are the future of our workforce, and we're proud to play a role in their success." Justin MacEachern, VP business leader Gilbane Building Company – ACE Mentor Program of Greater Boston board member and fundraising committee co-chair.

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