



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

July 2015

2015 California Summer Camp: Building with Purpose

Twenty-seven top students from ACE affiliates across California and Colorado recently completed ACE’s fifth annual week-long overnight ACE CA summer camp – this year at Sacramento State University. During the eight-day camp, the students designed and built custom benches for the September 11th Memorial at the California State Fair grounds. Camp was organized by a planning committee made up of ACE Sacramento board members, Sacramento Regional Builder’s Exchange members, the AGC of CA Construction Education Foundation, the Sacramento County Office of Education, Sacramento State Construction Management Dept. as well as ACE national.

Donations and support from **ValleyCrest Landscape Companies, EMCOR Group, Engineering Contractors’ Association, Griffith Company, Pacific Coast Building Products, Friends of the State Fair, Lionakis, Simpson Strong-Tie, Diamond Pacific, Clark Pacific, NECA, Consumnes River College, Republic Services, Nova Group, Turner Construction, Brown Construction, Gexpro and United Rentals** helped make this camp 100% free for these exceptional students.



Students and counselors at the Build Site:
Consumnes River College

Camp Counselors

Sacramento State University

Haylie Casey – EE, 2nd year counselor
Zack Sherill – ME, 3rd year counselor, first year as site-director, former ACE Sacramento student!

Long Beach State University

Viridiana Esquivel – CM, 2nd year counselor, former ACE Camper from ACE LA!
Henry Hernandez – CM, 4th year counselor, 2nd year as site director!

San Jose State University

Fernando Thomas – CE, 3rd year counselor
Susana Guzman, ME, 1st year counselor

UC Berkeley

Ali Mayhayi – A, 3rd year counselor, former ACE student from ACE SF Bay Area!

Cal Poly

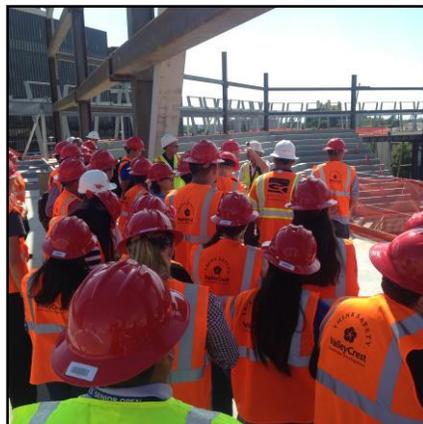
Casey Wong – A, 1st year counselor, former ACE Camper from ACE Sacramento!

New School of Architecture

Miguel Escobar – A, 1st year counselor

Pratt Institute

Joon Lee – A, 1st year counselor, former ACE Camper from ACE SF Bay Area!



ACE Camp at the new Sacramento Kings’ Arena, hosted by Clint Williams of Turner Construction

ACE Mentor California



Camp Student learns how to build a concrete wall with masons from Basalite Concrete

CAMP ACTIVITIES

For all the students, summer camp was an eye opening experience. None had participated in an intensive design/build exercise. Some had never stayed away from home or traveled in an airplane and *all* got their first taste of living on a college campus – invaluable preparation for college life. They were housed in the Sacramento State University dormitories and chaperoned overnight by college counselors in A,C & E programs throughout the state. This year, several counselors were former ACE camp students! Camp leaders attribute the camp's success in large measure to the dedication of the counselors who provide guidance in the student projects, advise on post-secondary options and so much more.

Students had little idle time as field trips, activities and the project kept them busy all week. Fun and educational field trips included UC Davis and Sac State Campus tours, the State Capital tour, visits to Lionakis' architectural firm and Basalite Concrete Products, a River Cats' baseball game and a visit the to CA State Fair. Construction site tours included the impressive new Sacramento King's Arena, the Sac State Solar Decathlon project and a new UC Davis student housing complex.

Special thanks to: Turner, Brown Construction, Lionakis, Basalite, SacState Construction Management, AGC of CA Construction Education Foundation, NECA, Republic Services and Clark Pacific for the field trips!



A steel beam from the WTC at the 9/11 Memorial. Students visited the memorial to assess the "owner needs"

RFP: DESIGN PHASE

Under co-site directors Henry Hernandez and Zack Sherill's leadership, students were issued an RFP for the 9/11 memorial bench project. They were divided into six teams, with counselors as team leaders. Students consulted with Harry Moos and Carrie Wright of Friends of the State Fair and Cal Expo for an owner needs assessment to inform their designs. Over the next 3 days, they worked diligently to iron out their designs – sometimes staying up late to get it right. Throughout the design phase, Henry and Zack took pleasure in issuing addendums to keep them on their toes...and simulate a real life design proposal process.

Even though the students were toddlers on 9/11/01, they wholeheartedly embraced the challenge to design benches that honored the victims and their families.

Special thanks to: James Willsie, Joyce Fuss and Steve Dicus of ACE Sacramento for lending their design expertise and Anyssa Lambert of Sac State's Construction Management program for donating the classroom space.



ACE Mentor California

BUILDING PHASE

After the teams' design proposals were submitted and approved, they had three full days to build their benches at Consumes River College. Counselors and students alike put in the hard work to construct the their benches. The students really enjoyed learning how to build from their own design, something they had never done before. This opportunity opened their eyes to a new set of career opportunities within the construction industry.

Build materials were generously donated by **Simpson-Strong Tie, Diamond Pacific and Friends of the State Fair.**

PPE safety materials were generously donated by **ValleyCrest Landscape Companies.**

After the benches were complete, each of the six teams presented their projects to "owner" Harry Moos of Friends of the State Fair and Elaine Keane of Pacific Coast Building Products.

Special Thanks to:

Joyce Fuss of Lionakis for coordinating the build material donations.

Rick Reid of Simpson Strong-Tie, Elaine Keane and Justine Delgadillo of Pacific Coast Building Products and Harry Moos of Friends of the State Fair for the material donations.

Steve Dicus and John Agostinelli of the Sacramento and Placer County Offices of Education for volunteering to be our on-site professional carpenters.

Bob "Coach" Visger of Consumes River College for allowing us to use your space and instructing the students during the build.



Students hard at work – building their benches at Consumes River College



ACE CA Summer Camp was even featured on CBS' local program '[Good Day Sacramento!](#)'

ACE Mentor California

Finished Benches



"I just want to start off with a big thank you. Thank you for allowing me to attend the ACE Summer Camp, I think it will most likely be the highlight of this year. Not only did I get the chance to fly to Sacramento, a city I had never been to, but to meet people that are just as passionate as I am about architecture or any of the other fields.

I walked into camp thinking that people would break off into groups and that we wouldn't talk much as a group, but boy was I wrong. I don't remember when it happened but we went from one second strangers to family the next. Everyone was so nice.

The counselors were amazing, I honestly was expecting camp to be run by older people, but the fact that they were just a few years older allowed us to connect to them and have even more fun.

I enjoyed the experience, there wasn't a second I didn't enjoy. I'd done a bit of construction but not exactly design and build a bench. The field trips were amazing. And I guess from now on it's impossible to forget PPE.

Thank you for inviting me to camp and for allowing me to participate in everything. I hope to bring the same ambiance I got at summer camp to our ACE at school. I used to think that ACE was a cool club but I think people don't realize how amazing it is and how many opportunities it opens up. Again thank you for everything."

– Camp Student



ACE Mentor California

Sponsor Recognition

Camp would not be possible without support from our sponsors, donors and partners. Because of you, camp continues to be 100% cost-free to our deserving students. We thank you so much for helping to make camp the unforgettable experience it was!

Gold Level



Silver Level



Bronze Level



Partners



For info on supporting next year's camp, please contact ACE west regional director Andrew Frankel at afrankel@acementor.org or 415.794.5042