



Noteworthy News

In This Issue

Special Announcements

Project Wins

Promotions & Recognitions

Charitable Donations

Belstar First Quarter Activities

ACE Mentor Program

The Washington Architectural Foundation's Fall Design Fête

Sponsorships

Visit our
Website

Special Announcements



January was National Mentoring Month, a time when our nation celebrates those whose wisdom, guidance, and positive examples help set children on a sound path and prepare them for success. This annual campaign is meant to bring attention to mentoring in an effort to connect more young people with caring adults so they have dependable people to look up to and help guide them.

Systemic and growing inequity manifests as gaps in opportunity, networks, and access to adult relationships outside of families. Mentoring is a key response to these issues. At a time when research shows that loneliness and isolation are trending upwards, mentoring is a way to build relationships and create opportunities. Mentoring includes a wealth of benefits for both the mentor and the mentee, such as:

- Improves confidence
- Develops communication skills
- Exposure to new experiences
- Improves goal-setting
- Improves listening skills
- Develops organizational skills

Mentoring is one of the biggest ways Belstar gives back to the community, offering formal and informal mentoring of firms, as well as internship opportunities. Click [here](#) for more information about becoming a mentor, including ways to get started, common concerns, and finding the right program.

Black History Month

February was Black History Month, a time to honor the incredible contributions Black Americans have made throughout history. From artists to inventors, politicians to civil rights leaders, it is a time to acknowledge and celebrate past achievements as well the changes and history that are being made today.

An annual celebration of Black History was first conceived by Harvard-trained historian, Carter G. Woodson, during his travel to Chicago to take part in the 50 year celebration of the 13th Amendment's abolishment of slavery. That celebration inspired him, along with prominent minister, Jesse E. Moorland, to create the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. From there, Negro History Week was founded and first celebrated

in 1926, and became Black History Month in 1976. February is the designated time for this acknowledgement and reflection as it is a month that contains the birthdays of both Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. Black History Month is now also observed in Canada, the United Kingdom and Ireland.

The theme for Black History Month 2023 is "Black Resistance", exploring how Black Americans have addressed historic and ongoing disadvantage and oppression. Despite inequitable social systems, Black Americans have found ways to advance, survive and thrive by innovating, lobbying, litigating, legislating and by helping one another as a community. These strategies have also served as a model for every other social movement in the United States.

For more information about Black History Month, including books, films, albums and podcasts, click [here](#). Click [here](#) for additional ways to continue to honor Black History.

Women's History Month

Mentor Protégés

Belcher Consultants, Inc.
[Belstar Cost Estimating \(BCE\)](#)
[Holland Home Improvement/Construction](#)
[M.A. + Associates](#)
[Millennium Institute of Construction \(MIC\)](#)

Why Choose Belstar

Core Values

*Trust - Faith In Others

*Shared Values - Common Goals

*Effective Communication - Good Listeners

*Humble Leadership - Shared Spotlight

*Empowerment - All of the above

By Lon Solomon (3/5/2000)

Facility/ Program / Project /
Construction Management /
Cost Engineering / Cost
Management / Dispute
Resolutions and Claims Analysis
/ Scheduling / Commissioning

37 Year Record of Performance

Fees average 20% for
combined Office / 15% for Field
Below similar-sized firms

March is Women's History Month, a time to acknowledge and commemorate the vital role women have played in American history. First celebrated as far back as 1911, when it was called "International Women's Day", the celebration grew into Women's History Week. Then, in 1987, Congress designated the month of March as Women's History Month.

The 2023 Women's History Month theme is, "Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories". This theme is meant to encourage the recognition of women throughout history that have been active in all forms of storytelling, including print, radio, TV, stage, screen, blogs, podcasts and more. Women have long been instrumental in passing on heritage in word, print, music and art to communicate the lessons of those who came before. Women's stories are human stories, expanding our understanding of others and strengthening our connection to one another.

During this time, let us celebrate and honor those that came before us who were brave enough to capture and share their stories in an effort to make things easier for the next generation. Click [here](#) for more information about Women's History Month, including [exhibits and collections](#), [audio and video](#) and [images](#).

Contact
Us

Project Wins

Belstar is a member of the Richard Lyndon Design team for the Gallaudet University Master Campus alternates project. Belstar is providing cost engineering services.

Click [here](#) to see a comprehensive list of Belstar projects at www.Belstar.com

The Rest of Our Team:

[Blackthorn Law Group](#)
[Rees Broome, PC](#)
[EagleBank](#)
[BDO USA, LLP](#)
[MacConel & Dodd CPA](#)
[Sapient Consulting](#)

Promotions and Recognitions

Belstar would like to wish the following team members a Happy Birthday during the first quarter of 2023:

Hassan Kobrosli - February 20

Charitable Donations

ACE Mentor Program of Greater Washington for the 2023 Scholarship Breakfast

Compassion – For the benefit of Richica

Belstar First Quarter Activities

The Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance (VTCA) 2023 Dialogue with the Culpeper & Fredericksburg Districts was attended by Ozzie Belcher on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, in Charlottesville, Virginia. The Dialogue was a sold-out event with a waitlist.

For both areas of Culpeper and Fredericksburg, various topics were discussed including Project Development, Construction and CEI Update, Maintenance and Paving, and Structure & Bridge Operations. VDOT leaders discussed specific program highlights and an overview of important project showcases of each respective District. VTCA's Gordon Dixon also offered a legislative update to the attendees.

VTCA's next event will be the 2023 Spring Transportation Conference and Trade Show being held March 29 – 31, 2023, in Norfolk, Virginia.

ACE Mentor Program



SAVE THE DATE!

WHEN

Wednesday, April 26, 2023
7:30 - 10:00 AM EDT

Coffee & Networking - 7:30a
Program - 8:15a

WHERE

Mayflower Hotel
1127 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036

Belstar is a sponsor of the ACE DC Mentor Program. Each year, ACE DC awards thousands of dollars in college scholarships to students interested in pursuing careers in architecture, construction, or engineering. ACE DC is excited to once again celebrate this year's scholarship recipients, the tireless dedication of their mentors, and another successful program year, in person.

BECOME AN ACE DC SPONSOR TODAY

The 2022 Scholarship Breakfast was held on May 4, 2022 at The Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC. The keynote speaker was Donna M. Cooper, Pepco Region President, responsible for leading relations with key stakeholders in Pepco's Washington, DC and Maryland service areas. The Scholarship Breakfast honors scholarship recipients, provides networking opportunities and is a celebration of the incredible work of the architectural, construction and engineering industries.



ACE DC was established in 2000. It has mentored 2100 DC-area students and distributed 25 scholarships worth more than \$800,000.

To stay up to date on the ACE DC program, please visit their [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages.

If you are able and interested in supporting this worthwhile cause, please contact washingtondc@acementor.org. If you are interest in becoming a mentor, please find more information [here](#). If you would like to donate to the organization, click below.

[DONATE NOW](#)

The Washington Architectural Foundation's Fall Design Fête



The Washington Architectural Foundation's Fall Design Fête was held November 18, 2022 at the [National Portrait Gallery](#) in Washington, DC.

The event celebrated the architecture and design community, honoring several worthy individuals and programs that have made Washington a better city through their contributions as designers, advocates and clients, including:

Scott Kratz

2022 Glenn Brown Award Winner for improving the quality of life in DC and raising public awareness of architecture and its benefits to society

Rence Gill, AIA

2022 John 'Wieb' Wiebenson Award Winner for Architecture in the Public Interest

Saakshi Terway, Assoc. AIA

2022 Emerging Architect Award Winner

Dahlia Nduom, AIA

2022 Architect Educator Award Winner

Steven T. Ayers, FAIA
2022 Donald B. Myer, FAIA Public Service Award

Thinkbox
2022 Partnership for the Planet Award

and

Stanley I. Hallet, FAIA
2022 Centennial Medal Winner for distinguished service
to the Chapter, community, and profession.

The Fete included a cocktail reception, seated dinner and program.

The Washington Architectural Foundation thanks you for your support of the Fall Design
Fête. The Washington Architectural Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS

Sponsorships

Richica

Richica is a four-year-old girl from Haiti. Belstar's past "sponsee", Carline, was also from Haiti. Belstar looks forward to providing the same support and guidance to Richica that we did for Carline!

The Compassion International child Sponsorship Program offers:

- Medical checkups and health care
- Ongoing Christian training through a local church
- Key life skills training, mentoring and vocational programs
- Nutritious food and supplements to protect against malnutrition
- Recreational activities and support to develop self-confidence and social skills
- Protection from crime, violence and danger
- Access to special services like surgeries and disaster relief
- Educational assistance, including textbooks, school uniforms, post-secondary courses, tutoring, test and lab supplies and even literacy and financial training for caregivers



Kathryn McQueen, MD

Congratulations to Kathryn McQueen, MD. Belstar began sponsoring her in 2019 as a medical student at West Virginia University with clinical rotations in Internal medicine, Surgery, Psychiatry, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, and OB/GYN. Now that she has graduated, Dr. McQueen will be pursuing a residency with Harpers Ferry Family Medicine.

In addition to serving as a physician, Dr.

Another sponsor of Dr. McQueen is Dr. Charles Gardner, MD, graduate of the West Virginia School of Medicine and of the Virginia Military Institute.

If you would like to help sponsor Dr. McQueen or find out more information, you can e-mail her at:

kamcqueen25@gmail.com.

McQueen hopes to be an active advocate for healthy lifestyle habits in the community through public outreach programs and education development. Additional accomplishments include:

*In October 2019, Dr. McQueen helped create a public outreach program to educate middle and high school students on the effects of e-cigarette smoking in Berkeley County, West Virginia.

*In April 2020, Dr. McQueen was accepted to present a research poster at the American College of Physicians in Los Angeles, California. The poster was on a case of Vaping-Induced Lung Injury

*In May 2020, Dr. McQueen was granted the Michael L. Friedland Award for demonstrating achievement in self-learning in the integrated clinical curriculum at the WVU SOM Eastern Division.



www.Belstar.com

- Be sure to visit www.Belstar.com for more information regarding Belstar's [internships](#).
- Watch for an updated listing of Belstar's past and present projects in the [Projects section](#).

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