



## NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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### **BCANJ Summer Work Program Sponsors 11 Students In Contractor Firms**

**Edison, NJ** – Eleven area students were placed by the Building Contractors Association of New Jersey (BCANJ) as summer interns in ten construction contractor firms in New Jersey. The students, who attend colleges in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, experienced first-hand many of the office and jobsite tasks that comprise the daily life of a contractor. Their contractor employers are all members of the BCANJ.

Upon completing their 12-week program, the students returned to school this month with a \$1,500 educational scholarship and a \$1,500 personal grant, tangible support to complement the invaluable knowledge and experience they gained on-the-job. They are enrolled in construction management and engineering programs at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, which partnered with BCANJ nearly 25 years ago to start the program, as well as at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Villanova University in Villanova, PA, and Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken.

To qualify for the program, the students participated in a mandatory, BCANJ-sponsored OSHA 30-Hour Construction Safety & Health Outreach Program at the BCANJ office in Edison. In addition, they have maintained at least a 2.5 grade point average and have successfully completed a lengthy roster of construction-related courses that includes, among other topics, mathematics, physics, structural design, surveying and the environment.

“Our contractor members open their doors every summer to students who are interested in pursuing careers in construction management,” said BCANJ Executive Director Darlene Regina. “The program allows contractors to personally train a potential new employee, while giving the students an excellent opportunity to put their classroom training to work on real construction projects. Many of the students return to the same contractor when they graduate.”

Member companies who hosted students this summer included Bergen Engineering Co., East Rutherford; Berkowsky and Associates, Cranbury; Epic Management, Inc., Piscataway; Ingrassia Construction Co., Inc., Middlesex; Joseph A. Natoli Construction Corp., Pine Brook; Edward Leske Co., Union; March Associates, Wayne; J.R. Prisco Inc., Summit; Stanker & Galetto, Vineland; and Turner Construction, Somerset.

Established in 1937, the Edison-based Building Contractors Association of New Jersey (BCANJ) is made up of some 225 active and associate members who are engaged in commercial, institutional and industrial construction. BCANJ works to unify the construction industry in terms of labor relations, improved business methods and standards, high safety standards, and overall project efficiency and productivity. Through an exchange of services and information, BCANJ members are made aware of issues that directly impact the construction industry in New Jersey.

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**Interns in the BCANJ 2007 Student Summer Work Program:**

**Leighton Lowers of Yonkers**, attending NJIT, was selected to work at Epic Management, Inc., of Piscataway, and was assigned to a jobsite in Union City.

**Ashley Mae Tardiff of Long Branch**, attending NJIT, was selected for March Associates, Wayne, to work on a jobsite in Long Branch.

**Allison Headley of Millville**, attending Drexel University, was selected to work in the office of Stanker & Galetto, Vineland.

**Alexander Bondar of Laurence Harbor**, attending NJIT, was placed with Edward Leske Co., Union, to work in the office in Union and at various jobsites in Essex and Bergen counties.

**Sevgi Deniz Topakli of Newark**, attending NJIT, was selected to work on a jobsite for Bergen Engineering of East Rutherford.

**Oluwaseye (Shea) Osinowo of Woodbridge**, attending NJIT, was selected to work in the office of Berkowsky and Associates, Cranbury, as well as on the jobsite at Schering in Union.

**Nick Gambino of Raritan**, attending NJIT, was selected to work in both the office and at a jobsite in Bernardsville for J.R. Prisco, Inc., of Summit.

**Nick Caputo of Yardley, PA**, attending Villanova University, was selected to work on a Princeton University jobsite by Turner Construction of Somerset.

**Anthony Mancini of Monroe Twp.**, attending Stevens Institute of Technology, was selected to work on the Beacon Project in Jersey City by Turner Construction of Somerset.

**Bill Fitzgerald of South River**, attending NJIT, was placed with Joseph A. Natoli Construction Corp., Pine Brook, to work at a jobsite in Tinton Falls.

**Brad Neggers of Whippany**, attending NJIT, was selected to work on a jobsite at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, for Ingrassia Construction Co., Inc., Middlesex.

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**Individual photos are available upon request.**