



ACEC NEW YORK WINS ESSAE ANNUAL AWARDS

ALBANY, NEW YORK (MARCH 3, 2025) – The American Council of Engineering Companies of New York (ACEC New York) is pleased to announce that the association has won two Empire State Society of Association Executives (ESSAE) 2025 Annual Awards.

Morgan Daignault, Education and Office Operations Coordinator, was awarded the Rising Star Award, which honors an ESSAE member who has shown outstanding promise for future leadership in association or hospitality management. Morgan (pictured right) is a 2024 graduate of the ESSAE Association Leadership Academy (ALA), where she expanded her professional skills, deepened her industry knowledge, and grew her network within ESSAE and the association management community.



As part of her ALA Capstone Project, Morgan conceptualized and developed an innovative webinar series entitled Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) Innovator Insights. This exclusive program showcases the exceptional achievements celebrated by the Engineering Excellence Awards, providing participants with a unique opportunity to explore the ingenuity and impact behind award-winning engineering projects.

“Morgan embodies the essence of the Rising Star Award through her professionalism, forward-thinking approach, and commitment to excellence,” said Erica Lavigne, Director of Member Services. “It is a privilege to work alongside her and witness her remarkable growth.”

The association also received the 2025 Communications/Public Relations Award for our entry, “Celebrating Excellence & Empowering the Next Generation: ACEC New York 2024 Engineering Excellence Awards.” The category honors an organization’s creative and effective communication or public relations (PR) initiatives that enhance awareness of the organization or promote a program or issue among its members, staff, the general public, media, or other external audiences.

The 2024 Engineering Excellence Awards PR campaign aimed to raise awareness about the importance of engineering, boost the public profile of the association, and build public awareness of the shrinking number of engineers in New York. As a result of our efforts, a story was secured with NBC New York, which aired during two news segments on April 10, 2024. The story highlights one of our top priorities – workforce development – by interviewing our 2023-24 Board Chair, Art Alzamora (Langan Engineering), on the needs of the AEC industry and Rosa Taormina, one of two engineering students who received \$10,000 scholarships at the EEA gala. The story was filmed on location at a 2024 EEA-winning project site, 555 Greenwich Street, and features Langan Engineering’s client, Sujohn Sarkar of Trinity Wall Street.

[We invite you to watch the story here.](#) ACEC New York is proud to bring attention to our members, scholarship students, and the engineering community in the largest media market in the United States.

“Through initiatives like our EEA PR campaign, which emphasizes the growing need for engineers, and the exceptional promotion of our award-winning projects by Morgan Daignault, we ensure a vibrant and active engineering community,” said John Evers, President & CEO. “ACEC New York is honored to have our PR efforts and Morgan recognized as we advocate for the business of engineering – ensuring safety, reliability and functionality of the built environment.”

The ESSAE 2025 Annual Awards will be presented at the Meetings, Membership, and Marketing Institute, Awards Luncheon & Annual Membership Meeting on March 20 in Troy, New York. The ACEC New York team looks forward to celebrating these awards together and continuing to provide our members with top-tier experiences and representation.

About ACEC New York:

ACEC New York is a proactive coalition of nearly 300 firms representing the leading engineering firms in the United States, including every discipline of engineering related to the built environment—civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, environmental, geotechnical—and affiliated companies. With more than 33,000 employees represented by our member firms, our shared goals are to further the business interests of our membership, enhance the quality and safety of the environment we live and work in, and help ensure the vitality of our communities. For more information, visit www.acecny.org.

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