

#### 2020 - 2021 Branch Board

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## NJB Elects New Board for 2021-2022

Congratulations to the newly-elected North Jersey Branch Board and thank you to all members that voted in our election. New officers and directors will be sworn in at the Annual Awards Dinner in September.



President  
James Heeren, PE, ENV SP  
Dewberry



President-Elect  
Chris Hanna, PE  
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Vice President  
Carlos Lopez, PE  
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Treasurer  
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Technology



Director  
John Withers, PE  
Stantec

Younger Member Group (YMG) President  
Juan Alfonso, PE, HNTB

Interested in getting more involved with ASCE North Jersey Branch?  
Volunteers are welcome in our Technical Groups and Board committees.

# A Message from the President

Fellow North Jersey Branch Members,

As long and difficult as the past year has been for all of us, it seems like just yesterday I was introducing myself to you and suddenly here we are at the cusp of a new ASCE season. Spring is in the air, summer is nigh, and we are finally starting to witness a return to normalcy. I encourage everyone who is able to be vaccinated to do so in order to help speed our recovery and get back to the events we used to enjoy.

Speaking of events, we are looking at ways to bring people back together face-to-face as soon as this summer. I am hopeful that we can soon announce a Construction Technical Group field visit, or at least an in-person seminar. As an annual participant, I am also hopeful for the return of our annual softball outing, so watch for more on that. Finally, our annual Awards Dinner will return to being in-person this fall. I know a lot of my colleagues, not to mention myself, are anxious and excited to resume seeing each other and restoring our connections.

COVID has definitely changed our society, our industry, and the way the Branch does business. We intend to continue some level of virtual component going forward. You may see technical seminars each year that will be offered under this past year's format – virtual, over the lunch hour – instead of the traditional dinner. We appreciate all feedback on how we've done this year and will seek to continually improve how we offer content to meet your needs.

On that note, we are now looking for sponsors for the upcoming year of content, to help us deliver all of the in-person events we are accustomed to and look forward to. To our traditional yearly sponsors, thank you for your continued support and I look forward to your engagement in 2021-2022. To those who were not able to sponsor during COVID, or to those who are considering sponsoring us for the first time, I hope that you are in a position to get engaged now. I personally believe that ASCE gives you back many times over the value of the sponsorship, and I'm sure you have experienced that as well.

I will be transitioning to our next President, Jim Heeren, before our next newsletter comes out. I could not be leaving the Branch in more capable hands and I am excited to see what direction we go from here. I will continue to push college and pre-college engagement of our next generation of civil engineers, which will hopefully become easier as students return to in-person classes. We have a strong incoming slate and we will be getting to work on next year's programming as you read this. I look forward to seeing all of my colleagues around the industry at our dinner events next year in a collaborative, social, and safe environment. Thank you for your virtual participation over the past year, helping keep ASCE strong as we weather the toughest challenges together.

Sincerely,  
Steve Alpert, PE  
[president@ascenjib.org](mailto:president@ascenjib.org) | 973-434-3153



**2021 Award Nominations  
are due July 15**

**Be sure to nominate your  
peers for the recognition they  
deserve!**

**VISIT US ON THE WEB**  
[www.ascenjib.org](http://www.ascenjib.org)

## In this issue:

- Branch Award Nominations
- Recent Event Highlights
- Infrastructure Report Card
- Younger Member Group Roundup

# 2021 Branch Award Nominations Are Open!

Shine the spotlight on your colleagues and peers by nominating them for the recognition they deserve. ASCE North Jersey Branch is seeking nominations for its Annual Awards.

**Nominations must be submitted by July 15.** The nomination form is available on our website and on page 4 of this newsletter. Awards will be presented at the Annual Awards Dinner in September 2021.

For more information about awards and to see pictures from last year's Awards Dinner, please visit our website at [www.ascenjb.org](http://www.ascenjb.org)



ASCE North Jersey Branch Awards Criteria  
and Nomination Form now available online at  
[www.ascenjb.org/awards](http://www.ascenjb.org/awards)  
**Nominations due: July 15**

## Civil Engineer of the Year

Presented to an individual who has contributed substantially to the advancement of the civil engineering profession (Member in good standing with North Jersey Branch).

## Young Civil Engineer of the Year

Presented to a young civil engineer who has significantly contributed to the civil engineering profession (Member in good standing with North Jersey Branch and 35 years of age or younger as of August 1).

## Government Engineer of the Year

Presented to an individual who has contributed substantially to the advancement of the civil engineering profession in the government sector (Member in good standing with and North Jersey Branch).

## Service to the People Award

Presented to an elected or appointed government official who has contributed substantially to the further public understanding and recognition of the civil engineering profession by meritorious public service (must hold office in a jurisdiction that corresponds to an area within the boundaries of the North Jersey Branch)

## Educator of the Year

Presented to an outstanding educator who has contributed substantially to civil engineering through knowledge and guidance (Affiliated with an educational institution in New Jersey, which supports a civil engineering or civil engineering technology curriculum).

## Project of the Year Award

Presented for an outstanding civil engineering project recently constructed in North Jersey. The Award is presented to Project Owner, but the engineering design team and construction team will also be recognized.

## Excellence in Journalism Award

Presented to a journalist or publication for outstanding articles, blogs or social media that enhance public understanding of the role and impact of civil engineering.

Award Description	Criteria
<b>Civil Engineer of the Year</b> Presented to an individual who has contributed substantially to the advancement of the civil engineering profession.	Member in good standing with the New Jersey Section and North Jersey Branch; ASCE membership grade of member, fellow, honorary or life member.
<b>Young Civil Engineer of the Year</b> Presented to a young civil engineer who has significantly contributed to the civil engineering profession.	Member in good standing with the New Jersey Section and North Jersey Branch; ASCE membership grade of at least associate member. Must be 35 years of age or younger as of August 1.
<b>Government Engineer of the Year</b> Presented to an individual who has contributed substantially to the advancement of the civil engineering profession in the government sector.	Member in good standing with the New Jersey Section and North Jersey Branch; ASCE membership grade of member, fellow, honorary or life member.
<b>Service to the People Award</b> Presented to an elected or appointed government official who has contributed substantially to further public understanding and recognition of the civil engineering profession by meritorious public service.	Must hold office in a jurisdiction that corresponds to an area within the boundaries of the North Jersey Branch.
<b>Educator of the Year Award</b> Presented to an outstanding educator who has contributed substantially to civil engineering through knowledge and guidance.	Must be affiliated with an educational institution in New Jersey, which supports a civil engineering or civil engineering technology curriculum.
<b>Project of the Year Award</b> Presented for an outstanding civil engineering project recently constructed in North Jersey. The Award is presented to Project Owner, but the engineering design team and construction team will also be recognized.	A project of significance involving aspects of civil engineering and design, constructed in Sussex, Warren, Morris, Passaic, Bergen, Essex, Union, and Hudson Counties or involving substantial work within said Counties if the project crosses County boundary lines and completed by the nomination deadline.
<b>Excellence in Journalism Award</b> Presented to a journalist or publication for outstanding articles, blogs or social media that enhance public understanding of the role and impact of civil engineering.	Journalist or publication is located within or covers relevant topics within the boundaries of the North Jersey Branch. Should have advanced public knowledge and understanding of civil engineers.

Nomination By: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone & Email of Person Submitting Nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee (if project, title of project):
Address of Nominee:
Phone & Email of Nominee:
Job Title:
Employer:
Member of ASCE?
Award(s) Nominated for (list all that apply):
Please list academic degrees, involvement in other professional societies, civil or charitable activities or other awards or honors:

Please support the candidate's nomination with a brief statement of 200 words or less, on a separate sheet.

**Excellence in Journalism Award:** Include a copy (original or photocopy) of relevant article(s) as it appeared in the publication, which should include the publication's masthead and date of publication, article title, publication date, publication name, publication phone and fax, and the journalist's editor and publisher, and a description of how the entry meets the criteria. **Project of the Year Award:** Include a description of the project with a brief statement of 500 words or less indicating the engineering significance of the project and how the project meets the criteria; project photos are encouraged but not required.

Please e-mail this completed form and attachments to James Heeren, PE at [president-elect@ascenj.org](mailto:president-elect@ascenj.org) by July 15, 2021. Online Nomination form is also available at <http://www.ascenj.org/awards>

# Recent Event Highlights

## COPRI Event: Two Presentations



On Thursday, March 25, 2021, ASCE North Jersey Branch and the North Jersey Chapter of the Coasts, Oceans, Ports & Rivers Institute hosted a pair of presentations that earned 2 PDHs for the nearly 50 attendees. The first segment was entitled “Above and Underwater Inspection of Waterfront Structures”, and was presented by Robert F. Garrity, PE, the Engineer Divers Group Leader, and Brian J. DeBaun, PE, the Engineer Divers Group New Jersey Leader of Jacobs Engineering.



The second segment was entitled “Rock Quality and Construction Quality Control for Rubblemound Structures”, and was presented by Brent Sumner, PE, Senior Engineer with W.F. Baird & Associates Ltd.

## GTG Event: Learning from Earthquakes

On Thursday, May 6, 2021, the Geotechnical Technical Group of ASCE North Jersey Branch presented a webinar entitled “Learning from Earthquakes: The Path to Resilient Geo-Designs”. The presenter was Sissy Nikolaou, Ph.D., PE, D.GE, F.ASCE, the Earthquake Engineering Group Leader of the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Dr. Nikolaou discussed cases of successful and failed performance that involved site conditions, ground motions, topography, and soil-structure interaction. She also discussed how these examples can be used to more safely advance our designs. The event was approved for 1 PDH for the nearly 40 attendees, for which the certificate is forthcoming.



## UESI Event: Preparation and Efficient Maintenance of Asset Register – Sewer

On Thursday, May 27, 2021, ASCE North Jersey Branch and the New Jersey Chapter of Utility Engineering & Surveying Institute (UESI) hosted a webinar entitled “Preparation and Efficient Maintenance of Asset Register – Sewer”. The presenters were Jim O’Dowd, PE, of AECOM and Phil Martin, PE, of the Augusta County Service Authority. This was the second of two virtual presentations offered by UESI this year. The webinar provided a basic explanation of an asset register and how it can be used as the foundation of system understanding and management. With a myriad of utility inspection and rehabilitation technologies and software available, it can be overwhelming to know where to start and to discern what would be valuable to incorporate and adopt. This webinar explained and categorized the various data sources, identifying the most important components recommended to be captured in the asset register and the appropriate technologies to be applied to maintaining it. The event was approved for 1 PDH, for which the certificate is forthcoming.



# Recent Event Highlights

## SEI Half-Day Virtual Seminar

On Thursday, April 15, 2021, ASCE North Jersey Branch and the North Jersey Chapter of the Structural Engineering Institute presented a Half-Day Spring Structural Seminar virtually. Nearly 30 attendees earned 3 PDHs for participating in this event, which included presentations on 3 different topics. The first segment was entitled “The Fore River Lift Bridge: How We Lift a Bridge” and was presented by Sean-Philip Bolduc, PE, a Senior Project Engineer of Infrastructure, at Parsons. The Fore River Lift Bridge is the centerpiece of the MassDOT Accelerated Bridge Program and seen as an industry-first in movable bridges. The Fore River Lift Bridge Project involved the replacement of the temporary lift span carrying Route 3A over the Weymouth Fore River in Quincy/Weymouth, MA.



The second segment was entitled “Recent Progress in Testing, Simulating and Mitigating Corrosion in Reinforced Concrete Infrastructure”, and was presented by Matthew Bandelt, Ph.D., PE, Assistant Professor and Associate Chair for Graduate Studies in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at New Jersey Institute of Technology. This presentation explored new research on corrosion behavior in reinforced concrete infrastructure and discussed the techniques and new materials that can be used to limit corrosion-related durability challenges.

The third segment was entitled “Recent Advances in Wind Engineering for Tall Buildings’ Structures” and was presented by Matthew Vallis, Ph.D., Associate Director at Windtech Consultants. The presentation provided an overview of the current best practice in wind engineering for tall buildings and the most advanced methods and techniques of analysis.

**Save the Date!**

**ASCE NJ Section  
Annual Awards Dinner  
Thursday August 26, 2021  
Forsgate Country Club**

**Promote civil engineering and the  
accomplishments of your peers.  
See you in-person in August  
to celebrate!**

## NJB Annual Softball Tournament Returns in 2021

**The ASCE North Jersey Branch Softball  
Tournament is friendly one-day competition  
where engineering firms compete for the  
honorable trophy, and all proceeds help  
support our student scholarships. Look for  
announcements over the summer as we  
schedule a date for the tournament to be played  
this September.**



# Infrastructure Report Card

## America's Infrastructure Scores a C-

The new national report card is out and America's Infrastructure Scores a C-. There is a water main break every two minutes, and an estimated 6 billion gallons of treated water are lost each day in the U.S., enough to fill over 9,000 swimming pools. Growing wear and tear on our nation's roads have left 43% of our public roadways in poor or mediocre condition, a number that has remained stagnant over the past several years. There are 30,000 miles of inventoried levees across the U.S., and an additional 10,000 miles of levees whose location and condition are unknown. Check out the rest of the details at <https://infrastructurereportcard.org/>



## NJ Section Report Card Initiative

The ASCE New Jersey Section is looking for volunteers to get involved in researching, promoting, and preparing the next NJ Infrastructure Report Card.

Please contact Chris Hanna, PE for more information or if you are interested in participating: [jerseyengineer@gmail.com](mailto:jerseyengineer@gmail.com)

We need volunteers to assist in these subject areas:

- Aviation
- Bridges
- Dams
- Drinking Water
- Energy
- Hazardous Waste
- Inland Waterways
- Levees
- Parks & Recreation
- Ports
- Rail
- Roads
- Schools
- Solid Waste
- Transit
- Wastewater

# Younger Member Group (YMG) Roundup

## Upcoming YMG Events:

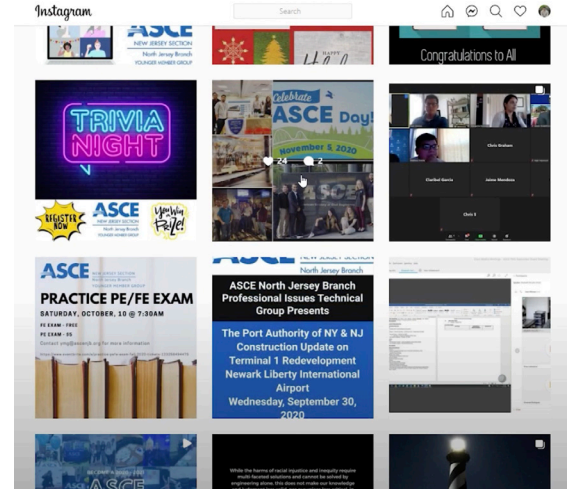
- Welcome Back to In Person Events BBQ (Date, Time and Location TBD)
- 2021-2022 YMG Board elections are open until June 25 - [Cast your vote now!](#)
- ASCE Together Apart Video Contest! View our entry here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=siihvlXbSW0>

## Past YMG Events:

School 8 Clifton 3rd Grade Presentation – March 18, 2021 – K-12 Outreach Chairs Parth Rana and Chelsie Scarafile presented to the 3rd grade class at School 8 in Clifton. The presentation was well received, and there were numerous praises from the students. No one is ever too young to learn about engineering!

Practice PE/FE Exam – April 10, 2021 – The Younger Member Group hosted its biennial Practice PE/ FE exam to help prepare those that took their exams in the Spring. The exam was offered online. We hope to offer it in person when it is safe to do so. We wish the best for all those that recently found out their exam results!

Virtual Fitness Night April 15, 2021 and May 4th, 2021 – The North Jersey YMG teamed up with the Metropolitan Section YMF to host a Virtual Fitness night for their members. Members were able to get together over Zoom with instructors to work up a sweat.



Congratulations to ASCE's New Faces of Civil Engineering - Professional Division! To meet this year's honorees, visit <https://www.asce.org/new-faces-professional/>

## YMG Board 2020-2021

President:  
Elizabeth DeCarlo  
([elizabeth.decarlo@mbakerintl.com](mailto:elizabeth.decarlo@mbakerintl.com))

President-Elect/Vice President:  
Juan Alfonso  
([jualfonso@hntb.com](mailto:jualfonso@hntb.com))

Treasurer:  
Kristopher Reidy  
([kreidy@hntb.com](mailto:kreidy@hntb.com))

Secretary:  
Emmanual Rodriguez  
([emmanual.rodriguez@mbakerintl.com](mailto:emmanual.rodriguez@mbakerintl.com))

[Vote Now for the 2021-2022 YMG Board Election Closes June 25](#)

Instagram: [@ascenjbymg](#) <https://www.instagram.com/ascenjbymg/>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ascenjbymg>  
Website: <https://www.ascenj.org/ymg-overview/>



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