

# **MEET THE MENTORS**

## Grace Alom, Rhino Interiors Group



#### Why do you think the BCO is important? Why did you join?

I joined the BCO to connect with people across the industry and better understand the opportunities and challenges we face. The building tours have been invaluable, giving me the chance to experience some of the best projects in the country first-hand and speak about them with confidence and credibility.

#### What made you want to become a mentor?

Supporting the next generation, particularly women in the workplace, is a real passion of mine. Women are still underrepresented in the property and construction industry, and it is important that we raise each other up. Emerging talent has so much to contribute, yet their voices are not always heard. I want to help people recognise their strengths and build the confidence to share them.

### What has been your biggest achievement as a mentor?

I have mentored people both formally and informally, and the proudest moments are always when someone realises their own potential. Sometimes this is a big step, like passing a key interview, and other times it is simply helping them overcome something small that has held them back.

#### What are you most proud of in your career?

This is a hard one. I have always been conscientious and worked hard, so choosing just one moment is not easy. However, a personal one stands out. I will never forget leaving an interview at a time when I was still learning how to balance being a mother to two young children with my professional life. I went in doubting the value I could bring, but walked out having impressed the interviewer and, more importantly, having realised the strength and confidence that comes from being myself. That moment of self-belief was incredibly powerful.



#### What is the most useful piece of advice you've received during your career?

"Get comfortable being uncomfortable." At first I resisted it, but it has shaped how I approach challenges. It reminds me that not having all the answers is fine, and that discomfort is a sign of growth.



To meet our other mentors or find out more about how to apply to the Mentoring Programme, visit the <u>BCO Website</u>