



Taiwanese architect honored by Curry Stone Foundation

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Taiwanese architect Hsieh Ying-chun, the Grand Prize winner of the 2011 Curry Stone Design Prize, was honored at a ceremony at the Harvard Graduate School of Design Monday. Hsieh received an award of **US\$100,000** from the Curry Stone Foundation for his work on a reconstruction project for Thao indigenous tribespeople around Sun Moon Lake in the wake of the devastating earthquake of Sept. 21, 1999. Hsieh is a leading Taiwanese architect who for over a decade has deployed his talent in rural areas decimated by natural disasters, training villagers to build locally appropriate dwellings in response to disaster. He instructed the Thao people to use local materials, simple tools and traditional handicrafts to build their own dwellings with limited resources. Through Hsieh's hands-on education process, the Thao people reconstructed their own community, knowing that they would be able to live in buildings with greater safety, structural integrity and sustainability. The Curry Stone Design Prize was created to champion designers as a force for social change. Now in its fourth year, the prize recognizes innovators who address critical issues involving clean air, food and water, shelter, health care, energy, education, social justice or peace. (Bt Leaf Yeh and Lilian Wu)