

# ypp e-newsletter

JANUARY 2009

TAO-Pilipinas Young Professionals Program



The photo is a collage of 47 qualified entries submitted for the Young Professionals Design Challenge organized by TAO-Pilipinas.

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Features for TAO Shelter Magazine Issue no. 5

Belated New Year greetings to everyone! We rounded up 2008 with the culminating activities for YP Design Challenge, a project that started as a proposal to get more YPs to take up the challenge of designing for poor communities. More than 150 architecture and engineering students (as individuals or teams) took up the challenge, integrating the project's design assignment into their academic activities. In the coming months, we'll be sharing the best entries from the YP Design Challenge in a traveling exhibition.

We also welcome 2009 with new project ideas on our drawing boards (including bringing the YP Workshop back to Metro Manila) and with a call for more sponsors for these ideas to take off. If you would like to support our efforts in making the benefits of good design reach the marginalized sectors of society, here are ways to be part of the YP program and its activities:

**VOLUNTEER** for TAO projects if you are a design professional or graduating design student willing to lend his/her time and skills as a part-time (short-term) or full-time volunteer;

**MENTOR** our volunteers and if you're a teacher (and quite doubtful whether your age qualifies you to be called a YP), you can have your class take up extension projects with TAO-assisted communities;

**DONATE** to the YP program (by writing us a check or buying the YP bookmarks) if you're already posted abroad and can't personally volunteer for our projects but would like to support what we do;

**HOLD A FUNDRAISER** to support YP projects (like our internship program) so we could field more YPs in the communities; and

**SPREAD THE WORD** by forwarding this e-newsletter to your network.

For more information on the YP program and how you can get involved, please visit [www.ypps.tao-pilipinas.org](http://www.ypps.tao-pilipinas.org).

## quote this month

*"To make design more relevant is to consider what "design" issues are. Rejecting the limits we have defined for ourselves, we should instead assume that design can play a positive role in seeking answers to many different kinds of challenges. We have limited our potential by seeing most major human concerns as unrelated to our work."*

- **Bryan Bell**, founder of Design Corps (a non-profit organization that designs homes and facilities for migrant farm workers) and editor of the publications, *Good Deeds, Good Design: Community Service through Architecture* and *Expanding Architecture: Design As Activism*.

"It's time for us to go to the people rather than ask the people, especially the poor, to come to us."

**PORTABLE PLAYGROUND WINNERS & FINALISTS**

**Jury Awards**  
(PhP 10,000 prize each entry)

*Most Potentially Implementable Design*  
**Ana Marie P. Abrilla**

Team members: **Annelyn B. Lacson, Lea Constantina S. Cruz**  
5<sup>th</sup> yr BS Architecture students, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (PLM)

*Best in Mobility/Transportability*  
**Nathaniel Sheridan Balauag**

Team members: **Tracy Joanna M. Abergas, Jerome A. Palting**  
3<sup>rd</sup> year BS Architecture students, Far Eastern University (FEU)  
Adviser: Arch. Ma. Carmen Yatco

*Best in Visual Appeal for Children*  
**Phyll Patrick L. Seva**

Team members: **Christine Angela A. Oafallas, Ken Reandelar**  
3<sup>rd</sup> year BS Architecture students, Far Eastern University (FEU)  
Adviser: Arch. Alpher De Vera

**Finalists**

*Short-listed entries that passed the final screening were categorized as Notable Designs.*

**Anna Dominique M. Mendoza**

4<sup>th</sup> year BS Architecture student, University of the Philippines (UP)  
Adviser: Arch. Nicolo Del Castillo

**Razel R. Robines**

Team members: **Joseph C. Macapagal, Verna Lucia P. Sarraga**  
5<sup>th</sup> year BS Architecture students, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (PLM)

**Mark Dennis A. Alcantara**

4<sup>th</sup> year BS Architecture students, Far Eastern University (FEU)  
Adviser: Arch. Roselle Santos

**Winning designs for Portable Playground announced**

The jury panel for Portable Playground selected the winning designs for the YP Design Challenge on December 5, 2008. Six (6) finalists were short-listed from twenty-five (25) eligible submissions and in the final-round judging, three (3) were given Jury Awards. The jury was composed of Arch/EnP. Faith Varona of TAO-Pilipinas, architect and animator / film director Ellen Ramos, and artist-designer Robert Alejandro. The presentation boards of the winning entries and finalists may be viewed online at [www.ypdesignchallenge.tao-pilipinas.org](http://www.ypdesignchallenge.tao-pilipinas.org). Jury comments for each of the selected entries are also posted online.

Prior to the jury deliberations, representatives from POs and NGOs with programs on child-friendly communities were invited for an initial viewing of the qualified entries and a discussion/forum with the jury panel that will select the winning designs. Those who shared their comments and critiques included Ms. Dolora Cardeño of ERDA (Educational Research & Development Assistance) Foundation, Mr. Ramon Austria of Mano Amiga Academy, Mr. Nathan Dominguez of World Vision Philippines, and Ms. Flor Basilan of Food for the Hungry Philippines.

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*NGO representatives were invited to a forum on the proposed designs before the jury review sessions.*



*Jury members Ellen Ramos, Faith Varona and Robert Alejandro discuss entries during the final round of judging.*

**YP Design Challenge winners awarded**

TAO-Pilipinas capped 2008 with the YP Design Challenge awarding ceremony. The winners and finalists of the design competition were awarded last December 16, 2008 at the Trellis Restaurant in Quezon City.

The Sustainable Shelter category winners, awarded with prize money and certificates each, were PUP graduate Jasmine M. Soriano (awarded second prize-PhP12,000); FEU students Mark Abarquez, Leonard Tecson, Johmar Beley (awarded second prize-PhP12,000); TUP students Randy Amonoy, Jerome Dañas, Ildelfonso Madiano (awarded third prize-PhP8,000); and



*Sustainable Shelter winners, finalists and advisers (photo by Amillah Rodil)*

**Turn to page 3.**

## YP Design Challenge (from page 2)

UP-Diliman student Alvin Trinidad (awarded special prize-Php5,000). The participants for Sustainable Shelter category were asked to design a housing unit for an urban poor household that applies the principles of green design and construction. The entries were judged according to the following design criteria: sustainable design features; originality and innovativeness; cost-effectiveness; environmentally-sound construction; and socio-cultural sensitivity and affordability.

The Portable Playground category winners, awarded with certificates and Php10,000 for each group were PLM students Ana Abrilla, Annelyn Lacson, Lea Cruz (cited for Most Potentially Implementable Design); FEU students Nathaniel Balauag, Tracy Abergas, Jerome Paltng (cited for Best in Transportability); and FEU students Phyll Seva, Christine Oafallas, Ken Reandelar (cited for Best in Visual Appeal for Children). Participants were asked to design a mobile playground unit for an urban poor community that offers a variety of play spaces for preschool and elementary-age children. The judging criteria included appropriate and safe play spaces; mobility/transportability; cost-effectiveness and sustainable construction; and socio-cultural sensitivity and affordability.



*Portable Playground winners, finalists and advisers (photo by Amillah Rodil)*

TAO-Pilipinas also recognized the finalists for each of the categories and awarded them certificates and token prizes provided by the project supporters including YKL Color Laboratory and Rustan Coffee Corporation. The major prizes were provided by Selavip, Misereor and Sencor.

The design competition was launched on June 2008 and more than 70 registrations were received. Participants comprised representatives from 11 Metro Manila-based architecture and engineering colleges. The winners and finalists for each of the design challenge categories were selected by a jury panel. The entries underwent screening (for compliance to competition rules and guidelines), short listing and final-round judging.

The YP Design Challenge is the first attempt by TAO-Pilipinas to organize a design competition and provide a venue for young professionals and students to put forward design solutions for sustainable community development in urban poor settlements. The winning entries and finalists are featured in the competition website [www.yppdesignchallenge.tao-pilipinas.org](http://www.yppdesignchallenge.tao-pilipinas.org) and will also be showcased in a series of exhibitions.

## Sustainable Shelter & Portable Playground entries exhibited at SHEC

The YP Design Challenge winning and notable entries were exhibited at St. Hannibal Subdivision-Phase 2 on January 11, 2009 during the turn-over of 294 units to housing beneficiaries. SHEC (St. Hannibal Empowerment Center) is one of the project collaborators for the YP Design Challenge conducted by TAO-Pilipinas from June to November 2008. All registrants to the design competition were required to conduct a community visit/exposure to the SHEC housing project in Malibay, Pasay City.

*(If you wish the YP Design Challenge winning designs to be exhibited in your schools, please contact TAO at 441-0998 or email [yp@tao-pilipinas.org](mailto:yp@tao-pilipinas.org) so we could arrange an exhibit schedule in your school.)*

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*SHEC community members look at the scaled models of the Sustainable shelter designs.*



*Kids at SHEC community choose their favorites among the Portable playground designs.*

## YP Reading List

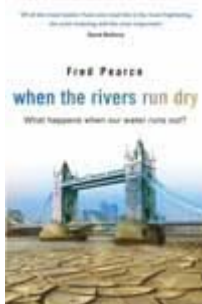
Every month, the YP e-newsletter features a selection of TAO Resource Center & Library materials as reviewed by TAO staff and volunteers. The TAO Resource Center & Library is now open for students and researchers' use. Library use is by appointment and guidelines may be viewed at <http://www.tao-pilipinas.org/resources/library>. You may call Angel Sales at 441-0998/436-7301 or email [lib@tao-pilipinas.org](mailto:lib@tao-pilipinas.org) to schedule your visit.



Title: **Contemporary Japanese Houses 1985-2005**  
Supervising Editors: **Takeshi Ishido, Satoru Komaki**  
Publisher: **TOTO Shuppan (2005)**

This book marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of GALLERY•MA, a gallery in Japan which exhibits the works of innovative Japanese architects and designers. It contains 127 works by 91 architects who have been featured in exhibitions in GALLERY•MA from 1985 to 2005.

Japanese design has a sleek, clean aesthetic and attention to detail that makes it attractive to people who like modernist and minimalist design. The book will interest people who want to know more about modern Japanese residential design. It includes houses by famous architects such as Tadao Ando and Shigeru Ban. The sheer volume and variety of the works featured in the book can provide a lot of visual ideas to a designer hungry for inspiration. The featured housing types include compact urban apartments, designer's house-studios, country homes, and public housing. The works also show how Japanese architects have dealt with challenges such as tight urban spaces and the need to accommodate multiple families in one structure. Descriptions of the works reveal each architect's philosophy and reasons for the design. Aside from photos, floor plans and sections are also provided so readers can examine how the spaces were planned. *(Amillah Rodil)*



Title: **When the Rivers Run Dry: What Happens When Our Water Runs Out?**  
Author: **Fred Pearce**  
Publisher: **Eden Project Books (2006)**

In this first-person account, the author documents how the world's freshwater resources are being extracted, managed, controlled or diverted to serve growing populations and sustain agriculture in different parts of the world. Mr. Pearce offers compelling tales of over-extraction of groundwater and arsenic poisoning in South Asia, flooding of wetlands along the Mekong River and its tributaries, the disappearance of much of the Aral Sea in Central Asia, modern water wars that have erupted in the conflict areas of the Middle East, and the water-engineering projects being constructed worldwide to cope with hydrological requirements. The author makes a strong case against dam-building (as they are ecologically damaging and have actually caused massive flooding) and promotes scaling-up grassroots initiatives like rainwater harvesting and drip irrigation.

There are several illuminating ideas to be read in this book such as how the natural water cycle supports human life and civilizations and how water is controlled for political and economic gains. The author also tries to show us the *water content* of products (e.g. it takes 5,000 liters of water to grow just one kilo of rice) and calls water involved in the manufacture of products as traded *virtual water*. Although much of the book tells of distressing accounts of water mismanagement, it ends with hopeful propositions on finding new sources of freshwater, replenishment of aquifers, and the appropriate and equitable distribution of water resources. Mr. Pearce advocates "riding the water cycle" (instead of more mega-dam projects), rainwater harvesting, water pricing, and growing less water-thirsty crops. Of interest to architects and city planners would be his proposals for creating 'porous cities' to soak up rain and minimize urban flood hazards and giving rivers the room to flood naturally.

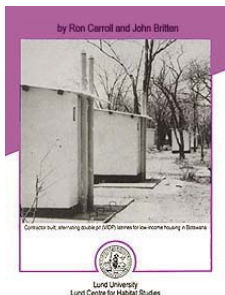
The book is an eye-opener on our shrinking freshwater resources with global perspective and enthralling storytelling. One drawback is that the author fails to provide its readers with comprehensive references or footnotes to his accounts. Nevertheless, it is absolutely worth reading and would make you want to know more about water resource management. *(Geraldine Matabang)*



Title: **Working @ Home: Working and Living Spaces**  
Editor: **Aurora Cuito**  
Publisher: **Loft Publications S.L. and HBI (2000)**

This book is about homes which were designed for both domestic and professional use. There are 25 works by architects of different nationalities. According to the book blurb, the works have been chosen because "they offer ingenious solutions which accommodate two completely distinct and seemingly incompatible purposes at the same site."

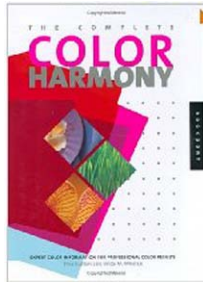
This book gives us a peek into the multipurpose homes of artists, musicians, designers, architects, doctors, and even executives. The designs are mostly contemporary, and include lofts, converted warehouses, multi-storey apartments and sprawling compounds. What's interesting to see is how the architects have arranged the spaces to suit living and working requirements. In some cases, the working and living areas are in an open plan, divided only by partitions. Sometimes they are on different levels, or are in different structures altogether. This is a good resource for architects and interior designers who are in the process of designing a home with both working and living spaces, as well as people who are thinking about adopting this lifestyle themselves. *(Amillah Rodil)*



Title: **Building Issues Vol. 4, No. 1: Non-Sewered Sanitation for Housing and Institutional Buildings**  
Authors: **Ron Carroll and John Britten**  
Publisher: **LWGrafik, Lund, Sweden (1992)**

Building Issues is a series publication of research studies by Lund University's Housing Development & Management (HDM) Department that focuses on construction and urban development in developing countries. In this volume, each non-sewered sanitation system is clearly presented with illustrations, design descriptions and basic construction methods. The authors gave attention not just on its construction, but how the community will be able to operate the systems properly and hygienically maintain the structures.

The journal is a good primer and guideline for technical professionals in the field of planning, structure design and construction who want to have detailed knowledge in providing developing countries with uncomplicated and buildable sanitation systems. The specific recommendations on the selection of appropriate sites for the sanitation systems, the manual methods of classifying soils area and basic computations will be helpful to the technical professionals guiding communities. More so, their consideration of educating the project beneficiaries as operators and caretakers of the installations is appreciable. *(Beryl Baybay)*



Title: **The Complete Color Harmony: Expert Color Information for Professional Color Results**  
Author/s: **Tina Sutton and Bride Whelan**  
Publisher: **Impact**

This handy book is a color guidebook that combines color theory with color psychology. The book is filled with different color palettes and various examples of color combinations that are very useful in various fields such as graphic arts, fashion, advertising, retail, and interior design. The book also gives an in-depth discussion about the influence of color through the years and its impact in our society and culture.

The book caters not only to professionals in the field of design but also to ordinary individuals who just want a little color in their lives. Whether they are homeowners who just want a new paint job for their house or a fashion designer coming up with a new clothing line, this book gives expert advice on what colors to use and when to properly use the different colors in the color spectrum. It gives detailed descriptions of the everyday colors that we use. The best part about this book is the short anecdotes and brief examples of how color can change history, culture and society. (*Angel Sales*)

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## Announcements



### TAO Shelter Magazine Issue no. 5

TAO Shelter magazine's fifth issue will be available by February 2009. The new issue focuses on **Climate Change**, with feature articles on:

- 6 Climate Change Impacts:** The local effects of global warming
- Measure your Eco-footprint:** Websites that make it quick and easy
- DRM Bill Primer:** A proposed new law on disaster risk management
- Water World:** The role of water in settlements development
- Hope for the Future:** Adaptation and mitigation strategies for climate change
- YP Design Challenge:** Winners of the sustainable shelter and mobile playground design competition
- Reflections:** Views on development work and volunteering in the Philippines
- TAO News:** TAO-Pilipinas' 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration
- On our Bookshelf:** Books from the TAO Resource Center



TAO Shelter is sold at PhP100.00 per copy. For orders (current and past issues), please call (632) 441-0998 or email your request to [info@tao-pilipinas.org](mailto:info@tao-pilipinas.org).