Shigeru Ban
Humanitarian Architect

Compassionate Designs with a Purpose

March 26 | Convocation 11:00am
Design Philosophy

• “To have a first-rate architect pay attention to those in need of shelter, and build better-quality buildings to serve their aesthetic and human needs—that is wonderful.” – Justice Stephen G Breyer on Shigeru Ban

Underlying his work is an idea of a minimalism based on the notion of energy and ecological sustainability. He’s connected to the Japanese tradition, but also very influenced by America and a Yankee-tinker attitude.
Transforming Minimalism

- The cardboard cathedral in Christchurch, New Zealand captures Shigeru’s vision.
- It uses inexpensive, readily available materials to create a structure that is lasting and durable.
- The cathedral was constructed in 2013 after the original was damaged in an earthquake.
Environmentalism

Ban’s designs consider the environment – he seeks to use the least impactful materials.

“I do not know the meaning of ‘Green Architect.’ I have no interest in ‘Green,’ ‘Eco,’ and ‘Environmentally Friendly.’ I just hate wasting things.” – Shigeru Ban

Within the architecture community, Ban’s work is sometimes considered controversial, because he so completely eschews the idea of building something beautiful without a purpose.
A Global Citizen

• Shigeru Ban is the founder of the Voluntary Architects Network, where he has provided relief for almost all major disasters of the last 20 years
• Many times, his temporary structures are so well made that they become permanent.
• “I’m not the architect to make a shape, my designs are always problem solving.” – Shigeru Ban
Design Challenge

WHAT
5 Disaster-related case studies - 4 weeks to create a scale model
Creative design, materials, response to disaster may include

WHO
Open to student clubs, organizations, teams, individuals, classes

HOW
Use recycled materials with an eco-friendly design
Materials, workspace, and work tools available in Art Department
Attend a Design Workshop in February or March

WHY
Win the AC Humanitarian Architect Award
$250 grand prize and $75 for each finalist
Select entries displayed on campus, the Perot Museum, and the Dallas Center for Architecture

Contest Guidelines available from Lynn Womble www.austincollege.edu/goforum
Dates to Know

We are available for classroom 6-minute presentation!

• Design Challenge | Feb 18 – Mar 20
  $250 grand prize and $75 for each finalist
  Open to student clubs, organizations, individuals, teams, classes
  Design Workshops in February and March

• Humanitarian Architect Exhibition | Feb 16 – Mar 30
  Forster Art Complex

• Posey Award honoring Shigeru Ban | Mar 26
  Convocation  11:00am  Wynne Chapel
  GO! Forum    7:30pm    Perot Museum, Dallas

Questions?  Lynn Womble, Jake Stanley, Sally Kate Humphries  www.austincollege.edu/goforum