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## **The Minnesota Architectural Foundation Announces Winner of 2011 Ralph Rapson Traveling Study Fellowship**

*Minneapolis, Minnesota* – The Minnesota Architectural Foundation is pleased to announce M. Michael McElderry, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP as the winner of the 2011 Ralph Rapson Traveling Study Fellowship. The purpose of the competition is to provide young architects the opportunity to advance their education in architecture by pursuing foreign or domestic travel-study. To assist in their education, \$10,000 is awarded to the winner.

This year's program, held March 3-8, 2011, was to design an alternative transportation and hostel facility, located at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Campus. From among the 35 entrants, the first jury chose five finalists including: Kar-Keat Chong, Assoc. AIA, Hammel Green and Abrahamson, Inc., Minneapolis, MN; Thomas Clark, Assoc. AIA, Hammel Green and Abrahamson, Inc., Minneapolis, MN; Alex Kang, Assoc. AIA, PDI World Group, LLC, Minneapolis, MN; M. Michael McElderry, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP, Pickard Chilton, New Haven, CT; and Mark Stankey, Assoc. AIA, Target Corporation, Minneapolis, MN. The jury members were Richard Gilyard, FAIA, Marcy Schulte, AIA, Sylvia Frank, AIA and Bryan Carlson, FASLA. Each of the five finalists presented their design schemes to the jury.

A 2007 graduate from the University of Minnesota with a Master of Architecture, Michael currently is a designer with Pickard Chilton located in New Haven, CT. He plans on using the award to travel to Rotterdam to study the effects of rising sea levels on cities, architecture and design.

All of the submissions will be displayed at the 77th Annual AIA Minnesota Convention and Products Exposition November 8-11, 2011, at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Generous financial support helps to make this program possible. If you would like to make a donation to the Ralph Rapson Traveling Study Fellowship Fund please visit the Minnesota Architectural Foundation's web page at <http://www.aia-mn.org/foundation>

The competition is open to individuals under the age of forty who are AIA members; and have either graduated from the University of Minnesota College of Architecture and worked anywhere for at least one year; or graduated from any accredited architectural school and have worked in Minnesota for at least one year.

*The Minnesota Architectural Foundation provides scholarships, fellowships, and grant to students, faculty and organizations which seek to promote the public's awareness of architecture and the built environment.*

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