



CHICAGOARCHITECT

STAGGERING ACHIEVEMENTS

2010 Design Excellence Awards

THE YEAR'S BEST:
DISTINGUISHED
BUILDINGS, INTERIOR
ARCHITECTURE, DIVINE
DETAILS + UNBUILT
DESIGNS

AIAChicago

nov | dec 2010

DISTINGUISHED BUILDING AWARDS

AIA Chicago established the Distinguished Building Award in 1955 to recognize significant achievements in the planning, design and execution of recent building projects. Projects are eligible if they were completed between January 1, 2005 and May 1, 2010.



Photos by (clockwise from top left): Kate Joyce, Hedrich Blessing; Steve Hall, Hedrich Blessing; Brigida Gonzalez; Andy Tinucci, David Woodhouse Architects; Ake Lindman, Lindman Photography; Peter Foerster, Optima, Inc.

Honor Award

Field Chapel | Baden-Württemberg, Germany

Design Architect: Students of the College of Architecture, Illinois Institute of Technology

Associated Architect: Ecker Architekten

Client: Minister Feesche, Lutheran Church of Bödigheim

Contractor: Professor Frank Flury, IIT

Consultants: Faerber & Hollerbach GmbH Ingenieurbüro (structural engineer), Professor Stephen Kibler, IIT (structural consultant)

"We're not able to contain our enthusiasm," one juror said of this serenely simple chapel designed and built entirely by the students in Professor Frank Flury's studio at IIT. Set in a field on a high piece of land whose sweeping view encompasses the steeples of three nearby towns, the chapel was intended as a place of haven and rest for users of a nearby trail. The chapel contains only two 10-foot square rooms. The first is 10 feet high and open to the sky; the second is a tower 30 feet high, enclosed at the top but with large louvers that admit air and light. Jurors responded to its simple elegance. "It's dense at the bottom but wide open at the top," one said. "It's such an honest building, such a clear building." Resting the structure on a low brick plinth was, they said, the master stroke. "It doesn't touch the ground, it hovers and you see that little piece



Photos by Brígida González

of light coming out—that's miraculous," one said. Another noted that "before I came here today, I didn't want to see yet another building made out of sticks. But I saw a great one here."

