

# Zhou & Eesley Family Foundation

Empowering entrepreneurs, transforming communities — through education, research & strategic investment

[zhoueesleyfoundation.com](http://zhoueesleyfoundation.com)



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We bring modern **entrepreneurship and technology education** — computer science, applied AI, and design thinking — to students and young people in under-resourced communities around the world. Programs are designed and delivered by our co-founders alongside trusted local partners, and every engagement is **short-form, intensive, and built around a tangible student deliverable**: a working app, a venture plan, a presented project. We're small by design — we build long-term relationships with the people doing the work on the ground, and we follow their lead.

**200,000+**

TAUGHT BY OUR CO-FOUNDERS

**6**

CONTINENTS

**15+**

COUNTRIES

**Evidence-based**

RESEARCH-DRIVEN PROGRAMS

## What we teach

- Applied & operational AI — for classrooms and organizations
- Technology entrepreneurship & venture building
- Design thinking and lean-startup methods

## How we work

- Hands-on sessions co-led with local teachers & leaders
- Train-the-trainer — partners learn to run it themselves
- A shared data template to measure outcomes together

## What we're looking for

We're currently looking for strong local partners in Southeast Asia to host a **short pilot program**. We're keeping this experimental — the goal is simply to find partners who are a good fit to work with over the longer term. A single successful session is enough to build from.

### THE FORMAT

- Half-day to a full day
- ~20–30 students or teachers in a room
- Timing flexible — we can work around the local calendar

### WHAT WE BRING

- Curriculum and facilitation, led by our co-founders
- A proven, project-based model — for students and for faculty/teacher training

### WHAT A HOST PROVIDES

- A venue and the participant group
- Optional: a sponsor or honorarium to cover costs — redeployed into our programs

## IN PRACTICE — AND HOW WE'RE SCALING IT

In 2025, at the **Penang Science Cluster** in Malaysia, we trained roughly **25 teachers** in AI literacy and design thinking — reaching about **2,500 students** through them, a 100:1 multiplier.

Co-founder **Lijie Zhou** is now running **Project AspirasAI** — a four-month applied-AI cohort with 15 Malaysian non-profits, in partnership with MySDG Academy and APPGM-SDG. Next, we're training local teachers to run their own cohorts — supported by a **shared data template** so we can measure outcomes and keep improving.

## Where we've worked

Since 2021, across eight communities and six continents: **Moloka'i, Hawai'i** (GenCyber) · **LOHADA Orphanage, Tanzania** · **Uganda** (refugee entrepreneurship) · **Vietnam** · **Penang & Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** · **Rural Hsinchu, Taiwan** (via ITRI) · **Israel** (MIT MEET) · **San Francisco State University**.

**Selected partners:** Fulbright University Vietnam · ITRI · MIT MEET · U.S. Embassy Kuala Lumpur · Penang Science Cluster.

We don't run an open RFP — but we read every email and follow up when there's a fit. See our programs, impact, and past work at [zhoueesleyfoundation.com](http://zhoueesleyfoundation.com).

**Lijie Zhou** — Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer  
**Charles "Chuck" Eesley, Ph.D.** — Co-Founder & Treasurer  
Professor, Management Science & Engineering, Stanford University

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