

PRESS RELEASE

AIA Akron CANstruction Competition to Benefit the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank

Canstruction is sponsored by the Akron Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the Society of Design Administration. This incredibly edible competition for charity is in its first year in Akron, but has occurred nationally for over 8 years. It just keeps getting bigger and better.

Last year, Canstruction raised over 2 MILLION pounds of food nationally. The Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank helped near 180,000 people last year and their numbers are growing. We do not want any more turned away due to lack of food. Canstruction issues a challenge to all of us to get involved so that no one in our area has to go hungry.

American Institute of Architects Akron Chapter and the City of Akron Mayor, Don Plusquellic teamed up to announce the winners of the AIA Akron CANstruction Competition -- where *architects, contractors, engineers, companies and artists* build giant sized objects out of canned *food* to feed hungry local families.

Friday, May 6th starting at 11am and working until 8pm, six teams drawn from Akron's top architectural and engineering firms went head to head with local artists in a design/build competition at the We Gallery 20 N. High St. Akron, Ohio.

The results are the most visually and structurally amazing *Canned Art* exhibit in the world. All of the food used in the competition will be donated to the Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank, for distribution to over 400 emergency feeding programs throughout eight counties.

All of the entries will be on view to the public, Friday through Saturday, May 28th at the We Gallery. Please check website for hours www.thewegallery.com

The public is invited to participate by bringing canned foods as the price of admission to view this spectacular exhibit that will include a shadow display, a car and many more, built entirely from canned food.

We are having a People's Choice Award given at the end of the month. Visitors from now until May 28th can vote with their money for the team or CANstructure they like best; \$1 is 1 vote and \$20 is 20 votes. All money goes directly to the Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank.

The judging occurred on Saturday May 7th, Sarah Markley, AIA Associate of David Sommers & Associates Architecture Planning Interiors will lead a jury that includes one of the hottest artists in the region, Del Ray Loven, City of Akron, Deputy Mayor – Administration, David A. Lieberth and SE Blueprint, SR. VP Marketing & New Development, Mike Sutton.

Awards presented by City of Akron Mayor Don Plusquellic

Entries were be judged in these official categories:
Award -Teams, Captains and "Title of Entry"

Best Use of Labels -Geis Companies, Greg Seifert "Take Me Out To The Ballgame"

Best Meal -Downtown Historic District, Jill Troppe "CAN Spiral"

Structural Ingenuity -Sol Harris/Day Architects, Melinda Smith "Hot, Yum, Toast"

Jurors' Favorite-Hasenstab Architects, Inc., Ben Rantilla "Accidental Happening"

Honorable Mention -FMD Architects & Thorson Baker & Associates, Brandilyn Fry "MondriCAN"
Honorable Mention-Braun & Steidl Architects & Dave Walter Volkswagon, Jack Baumann "The Canned Camper"

and a bonus award of Most Cans sponsored by Selvaggio-Teske & Associates - Braun & Steidl Architects & Dave Walters Volkswagon, Jack Baumann "The Canned Camper" 4,850 CANS and largest donation.

Contributors that make AIA Akron Canstruction possible are Selvaggio-Teske, Dave Walter Volkswagon, We Gallery, Todd V. of Akron Digital Media Center, Acme West Akron, SE Blueprint, ImgainIT, Pizza Hut, WingStreet, Geis Companies, Braun & Steidl Architects, FMD Architects, Thorson-Baker Engineering, Harris Day Architects and private donors.

More photos available upon request for local <http://www.aiaakron.org/events/canstruction>

National inform available at <http://canstruction.org/>

Best Wishes, Sarah Markley
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