

# CANSTRUCTION<sup>®</sup> – GUIDELINES & INFORMATION

A foundation of the Society for Design Administration (SDA), Canstruction<sup>®</sup> is a design/build competition currently held in cities throughout North America. Teams of architects, engineers and students mentored by these professionals, compete to design and build giant structures made entirely from full cans of food. Since its inception, over 10 million pounds of food have been donated to aid in the fight against hunger. Initiated by the Denver, Seattle and New York chapters of the SDA in 1992, Canstruction<sup>®</sup> has well over 100 individual competitions scheduled to take place this year.

The Montana Food Bank Network (MFBN) is coordinating Missoula's first annual Canstruction<sup>®</sup> event this coming July. The Southgate Mall has generously donated space for this event to occur. The schedule of events is as follows (times are subject to minor modifications):

Build: Thursday, July 9, 2009, beginning at 5:00 pm and concluding at 11:00 pm

Judging: Friday, July 10, 2009, 9:00 am (teams NOT to be present)

Awards: Friday, July 10, 2009, 7:00 pm

Tear Down: Tuesday, July 14, 2009, beginning at 8:00 pm

## RULES & REGULATIONS

Awards will be given in the following categories – Best Meal, Best Use of Labels, Structural Ingenuity, Juror's Favorite, Most Cans Used and Best Team Spirit.

Maximum size for a structure is 10'L x 10'W x 8'H.

Maximum size of the official team that physically builds the structure is five (5) people. Only 5 people will be permitted to build at one time. You may have additional people "staging" cans and boxes, but only a maximum of 5 people building at one time. Teams may swap out members during the build. Regardless of how many people from your organization participate in this event, 5 people must be listed as the official team members. They will receive name tags the night of the structure and their names will appear on the signage accompanying the structure.

Each team is to provide a sketch or computer image and dimensions of their structure. These should be turned in to the coordinator of the event before the build.

Structures must be structurally self-supporting. You may NOT use 2x4's, ½ inch plywood, ½ inch thick tubing or sheet metal. You MAY use ¼ inch thick foam-core, cardboard, masonite, plywood, plexiglass, threaded rod – for the purpose of leveling or balancing materials and NOT as load bearing. Cardboard tubes used as guides must also be limited to ¼ inch thick. Also allowed is Velcro, clear and double-faced tape (but not to alter the labels in any way), high-tension rubber bands, nylon string, wire and tie-backs. Remember, no permanent adhesives.

Aluminum food cans of all sizes may be used. Some food manufacturers are switching to plastic. If using plastic containers, make sure they can take the pressure of cans from above. No glass containers allowed. No pet food. No alcoholic beverages. No opened or exposed food. Cans must be full, unopened, and with labels intact and legible. Labels may not be covered, stripped off or altered in any way. Props are strongly discouraged, as jurors prefer pure food structures. Boxes and bags are also strongly discouraged, as the name of the event is canstruction. Use of soda and/or junk food is discouraged. Remember that food banks need nutritional food, not junk food. Make every effort in designing your structure to use nutritious, edible

foods. Depending on the space provided for the event, teams should visit their assigned sites in advance of the build to determine if there are any problems in positioning their structures. If the host site has any uneven flooring, each team should provide a plywood or masonite base.

### **ACQUISITION OF CANNED GOODS**

Participating teams are responsible for obtaining their own supply of canned goods. Discounted canned goods will be available through a local provider.

### **SIGNAGE & TEXT**

Each team will have official signage that sits adjacent to the entry. The signage should include firm name, title of structure, description of structure and the names of team members (5 only). The signage should also include a thank you to any sponsors and/or the names of additional team members who participated in one way or another.

### **THE BUILD**

The build begins at 5:00 pm on Thursday, July 9. It is critical for teams to be on time in order to have plenty of time to build. Teams will have until 11:00 pm to finish building. Some teams will only take 2 hours; other teams will need the entire 6 hours. If you have a chance to do a practice build – please do so. It will lessen surprises during the actual build. Try to do as much prefabrication of foam core cutting or other special materials you require prior to the evening of the build. Bring plenty of extra supplies to the build: tape, scissors, foam-core, cardboard, etc. Your best bet is to over-estimate how much you will need. Be sure and bring a ladder if you are building your structure tall. All boxes must be saved out of sight for repackaging at the end of the event.

You will be monitored by a superintendent who will track your progress and watch your team to be sure all rules are being followed. When you have finished building your structure, be sure and sign out with the event coordinator. The event coordinator will check the structures the following morning to make sure they are still standing. If there is an issue, a member from your team should be designated to come and fix the structure, if possible.

### **JUDGING**

Judging is done anonymously, and will commence at 9:00 am on Friday, July 10. Be prepared to go to the site prior to this and rebuild anything that may have fallen, but keep in mind that team members cannot be on location at the time of judging. No signage will be displayed until the judging is done.

### **THE AWARDS**

A small awards ceremony will take place at the mall on Friday, July 10 at 7:00 pm. Teams are encouraged to invite all those who participated in the event. Light refreshments will be provided.

### **DE-CANSTRUCTION<sup>®</sup>**

Tear down of structures will occur on Tuesday, July 14 at 8:00 pm. Each structure must be taken down and packed in boxes for pickup (the boxes you saved during the build). Also, each team is responsible for reporting the total number of cans used in their structure. This information needs to be reported to the event coordinator.