



Media Contact:  
Eberly & Collard Public Relations  
Don Eberly, [deberly@ecpr.com](mailto:deberly@ecpr.com)  
Jack Dulin, [jdulin@ecpr.com](mailto:jdulin@ecpr.com)  
Office: 404-574-2900

## **Canstruction Atlanta Kicks Off 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Art Competition, Philanthropic Event**

*Renowned design teams from around the metropolitan area build giant canned food structures for public display; raise food and funds in support of Atlanta Community Food Bank; and celebrate Canstruction Atlanta's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.*

June 9, 2018 – ATLANTA – Canstruction® Atlanta, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that benefits the Atlanta Community Food Bank, today announced the launch of its 20<sup>th</sup> annual art exhibition program and philanthropic event in association with the American Institute of Architects (AIA, Atlanta Chapter) and Atlanta Chapter of the Society for Design Administration (SDA). The announcement kicks-off months of advanced planning and participation on the parts of Canstruction Atlanta committee members, a variety of sponsors, and numerous design teams, resulting in massive art structures made of canned food goods at three office towers adjacent to Atlantic Station, in Atlanta, Nov. 4-16, 2018. The exhibition will be free of charge and open to the general public.

The Canstruction Atlanta organization, which comprises Architectural, Engineering and Construction (A/E/C) industry members and a wide range of related community members, inspires and facilitates metro-area participants to create and build the food can art displays. The program raises awareness of Atlanta-area hunger insecurity and generates food and funds for the Food Bank, while shedding a spotlight on the local design industry.

The can structures art exhibition will commence with an initial build-out day Nov. 3, during which up to 20 design teams will have 12 hours to assemble their individual can structures. They will be enabled to use canned goods of all sizes, wood, tape, rubber bands, wire, and Velcro to create self-supporting structures. The creative displays may be reminiscent of, but not limited to, such edifices as futuristic cars and airplanes; popular cartoon characters; items related to Atlanta's burgeoning film industry; iconic area landmarks; and any number of other highly imaginative ideas.

"The Canstruction Atlanta 2018 art exhibition will transform normal building interiors into creative galleries that are colorful, vibrant and entertaining to visit," said Chris Jenkins, Canstruction Atlanta 2018 committee chair and Pond director of operations. "The annual Canstruction Atlanta program and canned food exhibitions help address hunger in the metro area and bring together people from different design-oriented industries."

The art structures will feature design expertise from some of Georgia's most talented architects, engineers, construction professionals, and designers. Each canned food art display will showcase a unique design concept as a standalone part of the exhibition's entire series.

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Design teams' gigantic art structures will bring temporary art to public spaces in the lobbies of the Atlantic Station office buildings, including 171, 201 and 271 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Atlanta.

Free entrance for the public will take place seven days a week, Nov. 4-16, 2018, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST. During weekends, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. EST, access will be granted by pressing the intercom button next to each main office lobby door.

The annual program involves a juried design competition, culminating in an awards gala. One winner will be awarded in each of six Canstruction International categories to include "Best Meal," "Most Cans," "People's Choice," "Best Use of Labels," "Structural Ingenuity," and "Best Original Design." A seventh, special winner will be presented with the "Can-bassador Award" by the Canstruction Atlanta local committee.

The awards gala is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018, 7-9 p.m. EST, on the Nelson Mullin® office rooftop patio at 201 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Atlanta. The public is invited to attend the gala. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased in advance at [www.canstructionatl.com](http://www.canstructionatl.com) or at the door.

The annual program and event activities will draw to a close with a special Disassembly and Donation Day, Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018, when all can structures will be dismantled and bestowed to the Food Bank for distribution to hundreds of interrelated, nonprofit organizations with hunger-relief programs benefiting Metropolitan Atlanta and North Georgia citizens.

Canstruction Atlanta is seeking individual and corporate sponsors to provide participatory support. Seven sponsorship packages are available in exchange for applicable benefits. Sponsorship levels include "Elite," "Corporate," "Platinum," "Diamond," "Gold," "Silver," and "Bronze." Sponsorships and donations are tax deductible and can be attained through [www.canstructionatl.com/sponsors](http://www.canstructionatl.com/sponsors).

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**About Canstruction® Atlanta:** Canstruction Atlanta is a unique charity which hosts competitions, exhibitions and events showcasing colossal structures made of full cans of food. After the structures are built, the creations go on display free of charge for the public as a giant art exhibition. At the conclusion of the event, all food is donated to local hunger relief organizations. Recognized for commitment to innovation, hunger relief and collaboration, the organization has helped raise more than 25 million pounds of food since 1992. Learn more at [www.canstructionatl.com](http://www.canstructionatl.com).

**About Atlanta Community Food Bank:** The Atlanta Community Food Bank works to end hunger with the food, people and big ideas needed to ensure our neighbors have the nourishment to lead healthy and productive lives. Far too many people in our own community experience hunger every day, including children, seniors and working families. Through more than 600 nonprofit partners, we help more than 755,000 people get healthy food every year. Our goal is that, by 2025, all hungry people across metro Atlanta and North Georgia will have access to the nutritious meals they need when they need them. It takes the power of our whole community to make that possible. Join us at [ACFB.org](http://ACFB.org).