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Huntsville Botanical Garden invites teams to build big, give back at Canstruction® competition

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (Jan. 21, 2026) – Huntsville Botanical Garden (HBG) is calling on civic organizations, architects, engineers, designers, contractors, businesses, and creative teams across North Alabama to turn creativity into compassion through **Canstruction®**, a one-of-a-kind design-and-build competition that transforms canned food into larger-than-life works of art—all to fight hunger in our community. The deadline for team registration is February 23.

Canstruction® brings together teams to design and construct impressive structures made entirely from full, unopened cans of food. This competition will be held at Huntsville Botanical Garden on March 6-7 and can-creations will be on display for viewing on March 8. At the conclusion of the exhibition, every can will be donated to the Food Bank of North Alabama, helping stock shelves for families in need while raising awareness about food insecurity.

Founded in 1992, Canstruction® is a global nonprofit recognized for uniting the design and construction industry around hunger relief. To date, the program has generated more than 40 million pounds of food worldwide, proving that creativity can make a measurable difference.

This year's Canstruction® competition at Huntsville Botanical Garden offers teams a highly visible venue, meaningful community impact, and the chance to collaborate, innovate, and give back. Categories for competition entries are Best Business Can-Creation, Best Non-Profit Can-Creation, Best Youth Can-Creation, and Fan Favorite.

“Canstruction is where imagination meets purpose,” said Huntsville Botanical Garden CEO Susan Wagner. “The Garden is excited to organize this competition that helps teams build hope and impact in a tangible and meaningful way for our community. This is sure to be an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.”

“We’re thrilled to be involved in such a creative way to raise awareness about food insecurity and provide additional food to our neighbors,” said Food Bank of North Alabama CEO Shirley Schofield.

“We’re thankful for the partnership with Huntsville Botanical Garden and can’t wait to see what the participants build.”

Why participate?

- **Make a real impact:** All donated food supports local hunger-relief efforts.
- **Showcase creativity:** Design bold, eye-catching structures seen by thousands of visitors.
- **Strengthen teams:** Collaborate across disciplines in a fun, high-energy environment.
- **Gain recognition:** Compete for awards and community visibility while supporting a powerful cause.

Teams that register will receive official Canstruction resources, including planning guidance, competition rules, and branding support, to ensure a successful and rewarding experience.

How to get involved

Participation begins with completing the **Canstruction team application** by February 23 and committing to the build. Space is limited, and early commitment helps organizers ensure a smooth, impactful event.

To learn more about the competition, eligibility, deadlines, and how to apply, visit:

<https://hsvbg.org/calendar-event/canstruction-competition/>

Together, Huntsville can CANstruct a world without hunger—one can at a time.

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About Huntsville Botanical Garden

Huntsville Botanical Garden is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that exists to connect people to plants in order to support a healthier quality of life for the region. Open year-round, the Garden contains diverse ecosystems to explore within its 118 acres. From grassy meadows to woodland paths, aquatic habitats to stunning floral collections, the Garden invites guests of all ages to discover the beauty and wonder of the natural environment. For more information, visit hsvbg.org.

About Canstruction®

Canstruction® is an international hunger-relief nonprofit that hosts design-and-build competitions using canned food to raise awareness and generate food donations for local food banks. Its mission is simple and powerful: *To CANstruct a world without hunger.*

