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## CANstruction Contest Returns In May

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Special to the Grunion  
Jan 11, 2021



Architect and engineering firms participated in the 6th annual Long Beach CANstruction competition benefitting Food Finders at MADE by Millworks art gallery and gift shop. More than 15,000 pounds of canned goods will be used to design and build unique structures with the theme of "Dr. Seuss" and all the canned food is to be donated to Food Finders following the event.

—Gazette file photo by Geronimo Quitoriano



Long Beach's annual CANstruction competition will return in May for its seventh year, after the coronavirus caused organizers to cancel the event originally scheduled for October 2020. The event that benefits Food Finders food rescue organization is scheduled for May 6-16.

CANstruction is a charitable competition that pits teams comprising local architect and engineering firms to create themed structures using canned goods and other non-perishable food items as building blocks. The structures are exhibited to the public, where residents can pick the best one by casting votes with canned good donations.

"Since launching CANstruction in Long Beach in 2014, this event has resulted in an amazing 120,000 pounds of food donated to Food Finders," organizer Terri Henry said. "This is an event that local firms can use as a great team building experience and will have lots of fun with. In addition to having fun, they will be helping our neighbors that face food insecurity here in Long Beach."

The theme of the 2021 CANstruction will be "Don't Let Hunger DragOn," challenging teams to depict mythical creatures in any way they choose in the allotted 12-hour build time. The site and venue sponsor is the Hilton Long Beach hotel lobby, located at 701 Ocean Blvd. in downtown Long Beach.



After the exhibition and judging ends, Food Finders volunteers will dismantle the structures and transport all canned food to the Food Finders warehouse to prepare for distribution to agencies that service the food insecure in the Long Beach community.



The team entry fee for local architect and engineering firms is \$395, with space limited to 10 teams. Current 2021 registered teams include M4 Aerospace Engineering, WSP, Tuchscher Engineers, Dewberry and Moran Consulting Corp.

Final call for entries is Feb. 28, 2021. Teams are responsible for acquiring all canned food used in their structure.

