

TEAMS READY FOR SECOND 'CANSTRUCTION'

PUBLIC RECEPTION TO VIEW CAN SCULPTURES APRIL 12

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BILLINGS -- Five teams with five architects are ready to build sculptures with canned food for the annual Billings Canstruction® event to help the Billings Food Bank.

“The theme for 2011 is Disney Pixar movies,” said Jill Washburn, of RMC Campus Corps, who is charged with organizing the event.

Teams of architects, sponsoring businesses, and organizations compete to design and build colossal structures made from full cans of food. The results are giant “canned art” exhibits, Washburn explained.

There will be a public reception April 12, from 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. at the Billings Food Bank. There will be judging followed by an awards presentation.

Admission to the reception is free, however Washburn said she hopes people will bring a can of food to donate.

“I would love if, in addition to the cans in the sculptures that will go to the Food Bank, people coming to view the sculptures also donated a can of food,” she said.

The teams competing to build the best sculpture using cans of food include RMC Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE), with architect Jim Beal, CTA; RMC Campus Corps, with architect Sherril Burke, HGFA; Albertsons Grocery Store (management), with architect Mike Patterson, TUYA Studios, Inc.; Albertsons Grocery Store (associates), with architect Craig Frohlich, Designlab; and HDR Engineering, Inc., with JGA Architects.

The sculptures, which will be built April 9, will be on display April 10 -15.

After the entries are judged and admired by the public, all the food goes on the Food Bank shelves for distribution to needy families. Prizes are awarded for People's Choice, Jurors' Favorite, Best Meal, Best Use of Labels and Structural Ingenuity.

"It's a good way for people to know who we are, where we are, and what we do while having some fun for a good cause," according to Sheryle Shandy, Billings Food Bank executive director.

Four tons of canned goods were used in the event last year, according to Karen Beiser, Rocky Mountain College professor and faculty advisor to Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE), which launched the event in 2010.

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