

# 2024 Canstruction for Northern New York

The **LEAD Council** of the Northern New York Community Foundation invites students at local schools and those participating in student groups to create a “Canstruction” project to help combat food insecurity in their community and across the North Country.

This group activity encourages students to use their creativity and construct a project made of collected canned food, other nonperishable food items, and hygiene products that will support a local food pantry or backpack program of their choice. It’s a fun and competitive effort with an opportunity to win a prize and help your community.

## Project Guidelines

As you design and build your Canstruction project, please follow these project guidelines:

- Each sculpture must be made entirely of unopened, commercially available cans of food. Hygiene products (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.) are also eligible for use.
- The cans used must be standard sized (approximately 10 to 15 ounces) and cannot be dented, damaged, or expired.
- The sculptures may be no larger than 10 feet high by 10 feet wide by 10 feet long.
- The design and construction of the sculpture must be structurally sound and stable.
- The sculpture must be able to be deconstructed and all of the cans used must be donated to the local food pantry or backpack program noted on your registration form.
- Each team is responsible for collecting and transporting the cans to the competition site and to their recipient.
- Each team is also responsible to raise money to cover the cost of the cans and any other materials needed to construct their sculpture.
- All sculptures must adhere to local fire and safety codes.
- The sculptures must be designed and built within a specified time frame. **Canstruction for Northern New York submissions are due by Friday, April 5th.**
- An official form for your completed project will be provided ahead of the submission deadline.
- Overall, the project goal is to raise awareness about hunger and food insecurity, while also providing a fun and creative way for teams to give back to their communities.

## Awards

**Three opportunities to win \$500** to be directed toward the local nonprofit organization of your choice: Top Collection Award (most items collected); Best Design Award; People’s Choice Award (voting to be conducted online).

## Timeline

- **January 16-February 16** — Registration open to schools/student groups to participate
- **February 26** — Canstruction begins!
- **April 5** — Official project submissions due to LEAD/NNYCF
- **April 15-17** — LEAD/NNYCF announces official winners!

## Project Calendar

To support the organization of your Canstruction project as a class/group, below is a sample outline to coordinate your effort. Please allocate enough time and preparation to design and build your structure:

<u>Calendar</u>	<u>Activity</u>
January 16-February 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Sign up for the challenge!</li><li>- Think about design concept w/team</li></ul>
February 26-April 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Start project and begin collection!</li><li>- Procure materials to support design</li><li>- Determine # of cans/donated items</li><li>- Identify location to feature project</li><li>- Coordinate time to build your structure before the deadline</li><li>- Complete documentation to ensure official submission for the challenge</li><li>- Organize method to transport collected donations to selected pantry/backpack program</li></ul>
April 8-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Prominently feature your finished project on campus and in the community!</li><li>- <b>Keep structure together</b> to coordinate LEAD/NNYCF presentations should project receive an award.</li><li>- Voting by LEAD/NNYCF and community takes place for awards</li></ul>
April 15-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Canstruction winners announced!</li><li>- Coordinate photo/presentation with LEAD/NNYCF to highlight challenge winners (this may occur before or after spring break)</li></ul>

