

3rd Annual Birdhouse Social Call for Entries

Architecture for Humanity Atlanta (AFHA) is proud to announce the 3rd Annual Birdhouse Social on Saturday, August 20th 2011, 4 PM to 8 PM. The evening will feature a silent auction of custom birdhouses, *and bat boxes*, designed by some of Atlanta's most creative residents. The Studioplex courtyard once again plays host to this outdoor affair providing the perfect backdrop for the collection of designer birdhouses. All proceeds from the auction will benefit the continuing efforts of AFHA to promote social justice by design.

We are seeking your support through birdhouse design submissions that will be available to the public in the silent auction.

How to Submit your Design:

Please submit a sketch and or description of your proposed birdhouse design indicating how your design will need to be displayed for the event. Designers will have three options for display:

1. Hanging (Simple metal hooks will be provided for the event)
2. Standing (Stands will also be provided for the event)
3. Self-provided means of display (if you plan to include a stand or display mechanism in the design of the birdhouse)

Please submit your intent to curator@afatlanta.org no later than **Monday, July 25th**. This will ensure we have a clear idea of how many hooks and stands we will need to provide, as well as planning spatial arrangements for the venue.

Finished birdhouses must be submitted by Monday, August 15th. Please contact Chandra Farley at curator@afatlanta.org to arrange drop off.

*If you are submitting from outside the Atlanta area, please allow for shipping time to ensure that all houses are received by August 15th.

Design Standards:

Images and specifications for each of the species we will highlight at this event are below. Three of the species are cavity nesters native to the Atlanta area, and face great pressure from loss of natural habitat and threats from non-native bird species. In response to community requests and popularity, our fourth species is the bat and we will accept bat boxes!

Designers are not obligated to conform to all specifications. However, if your goal is to actually house any of these birds, the first two specifications listed below are crucial:

1. The diameter of the hole, or opening. If the hole is too large, the house will be overtaken by larger birds, or predators like squirrels will come and eat babies.
2. The height of the hole above the floor of the house. This one is important because if holes are too high, chicks will not be able to crawl out, and if it is too low, they will fall out.

The remaining specifications are typical for housing the species, but are more flexible. Please feel free to contact me with any questions about the birds, and I will do my best to answer them.

Thank you again for your participation. We look forward to seeing your unique designs!

3rd Annual Birdhouse Social Bird Images + Specifications



Eastern Bluebird

The eastern bluebird is a year-round resident of Georgia. The population of eastern bluebirds in Georgia increases during the winter as birds that summer further north move into the state for the winter. The bluebird has a pleasant, musical song and a similar easy-to-identify flight call.

Hole/ Opening Size:	1.5 inches
Opening Ht. Above Floor:	7 - 9 inches
House Depth:	9 (8 - 12 inches)
House Floor:	5 x 5 inches
Height Above Ground:	4 - 10 feet



Eastern Screech Owl

The screech owl is Georgia's most common owl and they commonly live in rural and suburban areas as long as they can find open woodlands or backyards dominated by mature hardwood trees. You can often hear their gentle, tremulous whistle on spring evenings.

Hole/ Opening Size:	2.5 - 4 inches
Opening Ht. Above Floor:	9 - 12 inches
House Depth:	12 - 15 inches
House Floor:	8 x 8 inches
Height Above Ground:	10 - 30 feet

2nd Annual Birdhouse Social Bird Images + Specifications



Prothonotary Warbler

The Prothonotary Warbler forages actively in low foliage, mainly for insects and snails. The prothonotary is unique among the eastern warblers because it nests in holes in trees. Abandoned downy woodpecker holes are common nest sites, but the warbler will nest in a variety of natural cavities. The song of this bird is a loud repeated tweet-tweet-tweet-tweet.

Hole/ Opening Size:	1.25 inches
Opening Ht. Above Floor:	6 - 8 inches
House Depth:	8 - 10 inches
House Floor:	4 x 6 inches
Height Above Ground:	4- 8 feet



Bat

Bats are good neighbors to have around. A single brown bat can eat up to 1,000 mosquitoes in one hour. They are a great natural pest controller and also eat large numbers of moths and beetles that cause agricultural damage.

Roosting boxes are an excellent way to provide much needed habitat for several species of bats that occur in Georgia like the big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), Mexican free-tailed bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*) and evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*). General specification minimums are below. We strongly encourage you to research the multiple options and varying criteria for proper functionality. Thanks to Bat Conservation International for the basics below.

Height:	2 ft. min.
Chambers :	14 in. wide min.
Landing Area:	3 - 6 in
Height Above Ground:	12 - 15 feet