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HOLIDAY BIRDS

Let's give them a hand

By MAGGIE GALEHOUSE Copyright 2008 Houston Chronicle
Nov. 26, 2008, 3:30PM



A hand turkey by Yao Ming

Courtesy photo

Like Thanksgiving, the hand turkey is a great American tradition. In elementary school, most American kids learn to draw turkeys using the outlines of their own hands. A small beak off the thumb, some stick legs at the bottom, and you're in business.

But this Thanksgiving, the Chronicle decided to give the children's craft a grownup context. Six creative Houstonians, well-known beyond their respective circles, agreed to find their inner kid and make a hand turkey. They were allowed to use any materials they wanted. The only caveat was that each hand turkey somehow reflect its owner's unique contribution to Houston and the world.

The result is a whimsical menagerie of birds: some colorful, some tailored, some seemingly larger than life.

Think of them as visual appetizers to a day stuffed with food, families and football.

Happy Thanksgiving, Houston.

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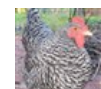
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