



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact Laura Kunkle

aib@AmericaInBloom.org

614-487-1117

Fayetteville, AR America in Bloom Awards Results Announced

(COLUMBUS, OH): Top honors for the prestigious 2014 America in Bloom national awards program were announced at the annual awards held in Philadelphia, PA on October 4.

America in Bloom executive director, Laura Kunkle, said, “America in Bloom is helping participants of all types achieve their potential. Every year our participants raise the bar, and the accomplishments and progress shown by this year's towns and cities is again remarkable.”

All participants were evaluated on six criteria: overall impression, environmental awareness, heritage preservation, urban forestry, landscape, and floral displays. Additionally they were judged on their community involvement across municipal, residential, and commercial sectors. America in Bloom is the only national awards program that sends specially trained judges to personally visit participants and provide a detailed written evaluation that can be used as a guide to future improvements.

Evelyn Alemanni and Stephen Pategas, two specially trained AIB judges, visited towns of similar populations and spent two days touring each town, meeting municipal officials, residents, and volunteers. Other competitors in the over 50,000 population category were Rockford, IL; Greater Racine, WI; and Lexington, KY.

Fayetteville received a five bloom rating and won its population category. They also received a special award for the best youth program for growing food and a special mention for their environmental efforts.

The judges said, “This is Fayetteville’s twelfth year in the America in Bloom program and the rewards reaped from their participation are revealed in every project, program and community group we met with. They have now entered the Circle of Champions and over the last decade have won special mention and outstanding achievement awards. 38,000 volunteers are donating 500,000 hours to make a difference in their city.”

--more--

Congratulations to Fayetteville!

Registrations for the 2015 national awards program can be submitted until February 28, 2015. Eligible participants include towns, cities, college and university campuses, business districts, military installations, and recognized neighborhoods of large cities.

America in Bloom is an independent, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting nationwide beautification programs and personal and community involvement through the use of flowers, plants, trees, and other environmental and lifestyle enhancement.

For more information, visit www.americainbloom.org.

###