



**America**  
*in Bloom*

***Planting Pride in Our Communities***

For immediate release.

For more information, contact Laura Kunkle (614-487-1117) [aib@americainbloom.org](mailto:aib@americainbloom.org)  
[www.americainbloom.org](http://www.americainbloom.org)

### **America in Bloom Judges to Visit Gallipolis, Ohio**

Judges from the America in Bloom (AIB) national awards program will visit Gallipolis, Ohio on June 16 & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014. This is Gallipolis' ninth entry in the America in Bloom national awards program. The town is one of 33 locations across America working on local revitalization programs with the hopes of receiving a prestigious America in Bloom national award.

Gallipolis is competing against Lewisburg, WV; Slippery Rock, PA and the University of Findlay, OH in the 3,500 to 4,500 population category.

Participants are evaluated in the following areas: overall impression, heritage preservation, environmental efforts, urban forestry, landscapes, floral displays, and community involvement. The judges evaluate these criteria in the residential, commercial, and municipal sectors.

Judges are Katy Moss Warner and Barbara Vincentsen.



Katy Moss Warner



Barbara Vincentsen

**Katy Moss Warner** is President Emeritus of the American Horticultural Society (AHS), a national, non-profit, member-based organization with a bold vision of "making America a nation of gardeners, a land of gardens. Katy was the Director of Disney's Horticulture and Environmental Initiatives at the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida, responsible for the landscapes of four theme parks, 15 resort properties and over 70 miles of roads on the 30,500-acre property.

For 24 years - from 1976 to 2000 - she provided the leadership necessary to ensure that Disney's horticultural traditions of beautiful gardens and themed landscapes were sustained. Katy, who lives in Windermere, Florida, has traveled extensively and has hosted garden tours in Italy, England, Belgium, Czech Republic, Argentina, Morocco as well as many destinations within the USA. In addition to judging for America in Bloom and international competitions, Katy is a member of AIB's Board of Directors.

**Barbara Vincentsen** is owner of Vincentsen Associates, a medium-sized award-winning architectural firm in Westfield, New Jersey. She grew up in a gardening family and has continued her family tradition in her own gardens, which have plantings shared from three generations of close family and friends. Her Westfield garden was featured in the 2010 America in Bloom program in Westfield.

Barbara is a licensed architect in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New York, and is a licensed professional planner and certified interior designer in New Jersey. She is actively involved in her community, serving on the boards of the Friends of Mindowaskin Park Committee and Fairview Cemetery Committee. She is a member of the Westfield Service League and Downtown Westfield Corporation Design Committee, and a past president of Central Section of New Jersey Chapter of the AIA.

Participants have opportunities to receive recognition in the following areas:

- Bloom rating
- Population category winner
- Outstanding achievement award – the “best of the best” over all participants in each of the six evaluated criteria
- Special mention – for what the judges deem to be an extraordinary project or program.
- Population category winners are invited to participate in international competition via the Communities in Bloom program in Canada.
- Community Champion
- YouTube Video Award

To date, more than 220 towns and cities from 41 states have participated in the program and more than 20 million people have been touched by it. Awards will be announced on October 4 at AIB’s National Symposium and Awards, held this year in Philadelphia, PA.

###

America in Bloom is an independent non-profit 501c3 corporation. America in Bloom envisions communities across the country as welcoming and vibrant places to live, work, and play – benefiting from colorful plants and trees; enjoying clean environments; celebrating heritage; and planting pride through volunteerism.