



# MEDIA RELEASE

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **America in Bloom 2013 Symposium & Awards Program Coming to Orlando**

(COLUMBUS, OH): Orlando, FL has been selected as the site for the **2013 America in Bloom Symposium and Awards Program**. This national conference, themed “Create the Magic” will be held at the Rosen Plaza Hotel September 19 - 21, will draw hundreds of community leaders and active citizens from across the United States. The event is a celebration of community development efforts across the country and an educational opportunity for anyone interested in participating in the America in Bloom national awards program.

Each year, America in Bloom sends specially trained judges to visit and evaluate the participating communities, college campuses, business districts, and military installations. The symposium will kick off with a banquet during which outstanding achievement awards will be announced in six specific categories, including floral displays, landscaped areas, and environmental efforts.

The following days will be filled with presentations related to improving communities, a visit to the Henry P. Leu Gardens, an early morning before-the-park-opens tour of Epcot’s World Showcase, The Landscape Show, and the opportunity to get some tips from horticulturists from Epcot, Walt Disney World, and Sea World. The event will conclude with a banquet and presentation of awards.

The symposium is open to anyone interested in attending. Registration and cost information is available on the America in Bloom website, [www.americainbloom.org](http://www.americainbloom.org). Attending provides a great opportunity to learn more about topics regarding urban forestry, environmental improvement trends, community gardens, beautification of commercial areas, marketing of community heritage and much more.

Peter Kateyama, author of “For the Love of Cities” will present the Friday keynote address. Additionally, guests will be invited to experience The Landscape Show, one of the largest and most impressive horticultural trade shows in America.

For more information, visit [www.americainbloom.org](http://www.americainbloom.org).

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*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 enhancements.*

*America in Bloom provides educational programs, resources, and the challenge of a friendly competition between participating communities across the country.*