



MEDIA RELEASE

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Catskill, NY America in Bloom Awards Results Announced

(COLUMBUS, OH): After months of anxious waiting, top honors for the prestigious 2013 America in Bloom national awards program were announced at the annual awards held in Orlando, Florida on September 21.

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

Catskill was judged on six criteria: overall impression, community involvement, environmental awareness, heritage, urban forestry, landscape, and floral displays, across four sectors: municipal, residential, commercial, and community involvement.

Katy Moss Warner, a specially trained AIB judge, visited towns of similar populations and spent two days touring each town, meeting municipal officials, residents, and volunteers. Other competitors in the 12,000 to 18,000 category were Arroyo Grande, CA; Holliston, MA; and Washington, MO.

Catskill received a three bloom rating and special mention for historic preservation.

Warner said, “The Village of Catskill is commended for the efforts they have made to preserve the historic character of their community by encouraging business owners and homeowners to restore the charming vernacular architecture that exists while identifying new uses for homes and buildings. Many of the historic structures along the Hudson River and Catskill Creek that were seriously damaged in Hurricane Sandy have been rebuilt with their original character. The Main Street in the Village of Catskill is truly being revitalized and residential areas are taking on a special charm that can only add to property values and increase the lure of the Village of Catskill as a destination to live, work and play.”

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Congratulations to Catskill!

Registrations for the 2014 national awards program can be submitted until February 28, 2014. 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 enhancements.

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

For more information, visit www.americainbloom.org.

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