



MEDIA RELEASE

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University of Findlay America in Bloom National 2013 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 participants is remarkable."

The University of Findlay, in Findlay, OH earned a four bloom rating in the 4,001 to 7,000 population category. In addition, they received an outstanding achievement award for their environmental efforts. Outstanding achievement awards only go to one participant among ALL the AIB entrants across ALL population categories. They also received a special mention for overall impression.

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

Evelyn Alemanni and Billy Butterfield, 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 4,001 to 7,000 category were Estes Park, CO; Belpre, OH, and the Greendale, OH.

Alemanni and Butterfield commented, "From the moment one comes into view of the campus, the University of Findlay impresses with its large trees, manicured lawns, attractive landscapes and flowers. Buildings on the immaculate campus range in age from 100+ years to nearly new, and all are uniformly clean and well maintained. Banners and signs are all in good repair and add to the ambiance of the setting. Clearly, the administration and staff recognize the importance of first impressions that become lasting impressions."

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Congratulations to the University of Findlay!

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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