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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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American Public Gardens Association Receives the America in Bloom Spirit Award *Group Recognized for Its Efforts to Make Public Gardens Indispensable*

Columbus, Ohio — The American Public Gardens Association has been awarded the “America in Bloom Spirit Award.” The award recognizes organizations whose missions and activities are consistent and complementary to the goals of America in Bloom (AIB). AIB promotes nationwide beautification through education and community involvement by encouraging the use of flowers, plants, trees, and other environmental and lifestyle enhancements. The APGA is committed to increasing the knowledge of public garden professionals throughout North America through information sharing, professional development, networking, public awareness, and research so they have the tools to effectively serve visitors and members.

“We are thrilled to be recognized by AIB for our commitment to communities,” said Mr. Casey Sclar, PhD, APGA Executive Director. “Just like AIB, APGA promotes the value of gardens, conservation, environmental protection, and beautification. It is wonderful to be acknowledged by another organization that is also helping to improve the quality of life in our country and around the world.” Marvin Miller, AIB’s president, stated, “It is my honor to acknowledge the American Public Gardens Association. APGA and its members are leaders in promoting conservation, conducting education, serving as economic engines for communities, and often serving as places where the historic and cultural heritage of a region is preserved.” The award was presented in June during APGA’s annual conference in Columbus, Ohio, but special recognition for APGA will be given during AIB’s 11th Anniversary Symposium & Awards Program in Fayetteville, Arkansas, on September 20-22, 2012.

The annual AIB symposium and awards event is an educational program developed specifically for communities to help them succeed in their efforts at improving quality of life. AIB will also celebrate and recognize the great things communities are doing to plant pride in America. At the 2012 event, awards will be presented in five different areas: criteria awards, population category awards, John R. Holmes III Community Champion Award, Special Awards, and the YouTube Video Award. The conference is open for anyone to attend. Registration information is available at www.americainbloom.org.

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.

For more information, visit www.americainbloom.org.

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