



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Slippery Rock, PA America in Bloom Awards announced**

(COLUMBUS, OH): Honors for the prestigious 2012 America in Bloom (AIB) national awards program were announced at the annual awards held in Fayetteville, Arkansas on September 22.

America in Bloom executive director, Laura Kunkle, said, "America in Bloom participation is helping participating towns achieve their potential. The accomplishments and progress shown by this year's towns and cities is remarkable."

Slippery Rock, PA 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.

Specially trained judges visited towns of similar populations and spent two days touring each town, meeting municipal officials, residents, and volunteers. Additional competitors in this category were Hummelstown, PA; Gallipolis, OH; and Lakeside, OH.

Slippery Rock competed in the population category of under 3001 - 4,500, receiving a two bloom rating and a special mention for its efforts in Heritage Preservation.

The judges, Diane Clasen and Bill Hahn, commented, "Hummelstown held several fundraisers for their 250th Anniversary Celebration. One of the most creative and successful was an auction of services donated by community people (plumbers, electricians, beauticians, etc). This auction raised \$11,000 and made a lot of people happy."

Registrations for the 2013 national awards program can be submitted until February 28, 2013.

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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.*

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

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