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Education + Celebration

An American Legacy: Honoring the Past, Shaping the Future
Celebrating 25 Years of America in Bloom

The 2026 Symposium & Awards Celebration will be September 24-26 in Washington, DC. This will be America in Bloom's 25th anniversary!

Don't miss attending this inspiring and celebratory three-day event that provides educational sessions, learning tours, best ideas sharing, awards celebrations, and the chance to learn from others across the country. Join fellow civic improvement enthusiasts, plant lovers, and community-minded individuals to learn, collaborate, grow, connect, plan, and celebrate.

You're invited to the 2026
Symposium & Awards Celebration,

September 24-26 in Washington, DC

Welcome



Schedule of Events At a Glance



Thursday, September 24

9 AM – 3:15 PM	Pre-Tour: Waterfront Wonders – A Day of Discovery from National Harbor to Old Town Alexandria (Special Registration Required – \$89) – THIS TOUR IS SOLD OUT!
4 – 4:30 PM	Newcomer Connection: Your Adventure Begins
4:30 – 6 PM	Celebrating Leadership: Elected Leaders and Municipal Administrators Reception
6 – 7 PM	Opening Night Reception
7 – 10 PM	Community Connections Celebration

Friday, September 25

8 – 8:30 AM	Morning Jolt: Cuisine, Caffeine, and Conversation
8:30 – 9:30 AM	Welcome & Keynote Presentation: Places for Business – Designing Downtowns for Economic Vitality
9:30 – 10:15 AM	Powering Progress: Leveraging Grants & Partnerships to Transform Your Community
10:15 – 10:30 AM	Showcase of Innovation & Conversation
10:30 – 11 AM	Why Old Places Matter
11 – 11:45 AM	Reimagining Vacant Spaces: Creative Placemaking in Communities
11:45 AM – 12 PM	Showcase of Innovation & Conversation
12 – 12:45 PM	Lunch & Learn: Meet Our Hosts from Prince George's County
1 PM	Buses Depart for Prince George's County Adventure
8:30 PM	Buses Depart to Return to Hotel

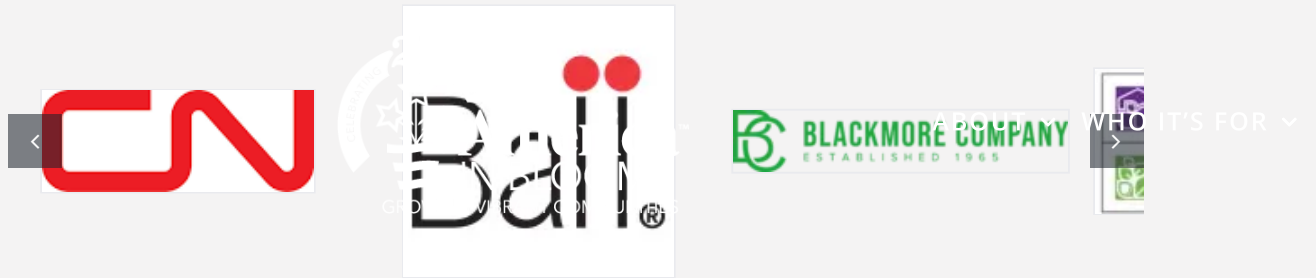
Saturday, September 26

8 – 8:30 AM	Morning Jolt: Cuisine, Caffeine, and Conversation
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8 AM – 12 PM	Youth Program: Growing the Next Generation of Community Leaders (Special Registration Required – \$60)
8:30 – 9 AM	State of the Organization
9 – 10:15 AM	The Great Idea Swap
10:15 – 10:30 AM	Showcase of Innovation & Conversation
10:30 – 11:15 AM	Quick Takes: Community Solutions that Work
11:15 – 12:30 PM	Meet with the Advisors
Afternoon	Lunch & Free Time On Your Own
5:30 – 6:30 PM	Closing Night Reception
6:30 – 10 PM	Evening in Bloom Banquet

Registration Information	+
Hotel Reservation and Airport Information	+
Full Program Descriptions	+
2025 Award Winners	+
2025 Symposium Photos	+
2025 Speaker Presentations	+
Future Symposium Locations and Dates	+
Past Symposium Locations	+

Our Generous Sponsors



Sustained through Sponsorships

Through financial and in-kind sponsors, we can share the joy and importance of horticulture, community involvement, heritage preservation, and environmental efforts. Contributions support the annual National Awards Program, maintain our website, facilitate outreach activities, develop educational resources, host the Annual Educational Symposium and Awards, and send Advisors to all participating communities.

[LEARN MORE](#)



America in Bloom
is an independent,
501c3 nonprofit
organization.



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