

Elizabeth Park makes rose garden top-10 list

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SAN FRANCISCO — All-America Rose Selections announced the winners of America's Best Rose Garden Competition 2010, and a familiar local garden has made the list.

Winners are determined by total votes from visitors and rose enthusiasts, overall garden condition and community programs, including tours and volunteer days that engage visitors and promote each respective garden.

“This competition encapsulates the importance of roses and the essential role these gardens play in our lives and within our community,” said Henry Conklin, Board President, AARS. “The overwhelming response of votes we received was extraordinary, which affirms that rose lovers are undoubtedly some of the most passionate people in the world.”

All-American Rose Selections' (AARS) “America's Best Rose Garden” competition is a national competition to find the best public rose gardens in America. The voting officially began on April 1, 2010 and closed July 1, 2010, allowing communities across America to vote for their favorite local garden. The top 10 gardens with the most individual votes became finalists, followed by AARS representatives who reviewed past judging forms, each garden's website and programs, selecting one winner based on beauty, creativity and the garden's overall contribution to its community. The winning garden, the San Jose Rose Garden, will receive a \$2,500 cash donation to its volunteers organization and each of the top 10 gardens will be featured on the AARS website rose.org as well as be included in a national promotion highlighting the best gardens in America.

In addition to the top three gardens in this inaugural competition, the gardens found below encompass the complete list of top 10 winners for 2010.

- 1 - San Jose Municipal Rose Garden, San Jose, Calif. (First Place)
- 2 - Dr. E.M. Mills Memorial Rose Garden, Syracuse, N.Y. (Second Place)
- 3 - Central Park Rose Garden, Schenectady, N.Y. (Third Place)

Columbus Park of Roses, Columbus, Ohio

Elizabeth Park Rose Garden, West Hartford

The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art Rose Garden, Sarasota, Fla.

State Capitol World Peace Rose Garden, Sacramento, Calif.

Ritter Park Rose Garden, Huntington, W.V.

Morcom Rose Garden, Oakland, Calif.

Garden Club of McKeesport Rose Garden, McKeesport, Pa.